SANDWELL
thechronicle
JANUARY 20, 2011
15p when sold
AN EDITION OF THE SANDWELL AND GREAT BARR CHRONICLE

Latest entertainment news and TV listings in The Pulse – starts on page 27

Win £250 to spend on sports gear at Decathlon store – see page 16

And now you can read your Chronicle online

Simply visit www.expressandstar.com click on News, then Your Local Chronicle and select the image of the paper that you want to read.

This will update every Saturday

Evan Roberts, aged six, prepares for the bird-watch at Sandwell Valley

Call to watch the birdies for an hour

FAMILIES are being urged to keep a lookout from their homes as part of the Big Garden Birdwatch this month.

The annual Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) initiative to encourage people to keep a record of birds they see is taking place on January 29 and 30. Those who take part need to spend an hour on either the Saturday or Sunday noting the number they come across.

Sparrows

They are then asked to submit their results so the RSPB can get an idea on whether the likes of blackbirds or sparrows are most common.

Scores of people across the country take part and can either send their responses by post or via the www.rspb.org.uk website.

If results cannot be collected from a garden participants can visit a park for an hour.

The initiative is backed by the site manager at the RSPB at Sandwell Valley Lee Copplestone.

He said: "We want to get people thinking about birds and it provides us with some hard data. It gives us a snapshot of what birds are in our gardens."

Talk on town's movie star

WEDNESBURY Civic Society is hosting a talk on West Bromwich-born actress Madeleine Carroll today (Thursday) by historian Terry Price at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery.

The actress, born in Herbert Street in 1906, is most famous for her role in 1935 Hitchcock classic The Thirty Nine Steps. The talk starts at 7.30pm and admission is £1 for members and £2 for non-members. Contact John Allen on (0121) 5560828.

Schools get ready for impact of baby boom

HUNDREDS MORE NEED EDUCATION

A MULTI-MILLION pound bid to cope with a baby boom by creating an extra 335 school places in Sandwell over the next two years looks set to be approved.

Three schools are likely to be enlarged under plans to deal with a significant rise in birth rates during 2006/07 and an "unprecedented" increase in 2007/08.

An extra 110 reception places are needed across the borough, with schools in Wednesbury and Smethwick to be expanded – but there has been some opposition from residents near one school.

Shireland Hall Primary School in Smethwick will be overhauled in a £9 million partial rebuild which will create an extra classroom to cope with the influx.

sandwellchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Uplands Manor Primary, also in Smethwick, will expand to a four form entry.

Extra pupils will also be taken on at Wednesbury's Tameside Primary, which will go from a two to a three form entry.

A report to Councillor Bob Badham, the borough's children and families chief, says: "Funds are already allocated for the expansion of Shireland Hall Primary School.

Objections

"It is recommended that, following a capital appraisal, the cabinet member for strategic resources be requested to approve the additional resources to support the proposals at Tameside Primary and Uplands Manor Primary schools."

The report said that a petition from 75 residents had been received opposing rebuilding Shireland Hall Primary in Montague Road, Smethwick, but objections would be dealt with during the planning process.

In Tipton an extra 20 places will also be created at Glebefields Primary and Joseph Turner Primary but, the report said they were not large enough to require a consultation.

However, these expansions will only deal with the immediate problem, with a further 225 extra places needed the following year, in September 2012.

The council is already looking at plans to extend and build new schools in the coming years.

Nationally, primary schools will have to find an extra 350,000 places over the next four years, and birth rates are still going up according to the report.

£12m parcel hub will be ready in a few weeks

THE £12 million expansion of a national parcel hub in Sandell will be completed within weeks.

The steel frame of the 21,000 sq ft extension of the DPD depot in Oldbury is complete with building work to finish this month.

Once up and running new machinery in the extended building will be able to sort half a million parcels a night, up from 300,000 at present.

The delivery giant is expanding less than two years after the grand opening took place of its £56m parcel hub which is based in Broadwell Road.

Weather

Mark Wilkes, the company's director of technical services, said plans are still on track, despite the recent snow and ice.

He said: "DPD's £12m extension to its national parcel hub in Oldbury is still on schedule, despite the terrible weather at the end of last year.

"The steel frame of the 21,000 sq ft. extension is now complete, the roof is on and work is about to start on laying the concrete floor.

"In the next few weeks new conveyors and sortation equipment will be arriving from Germany and Malaysia.

"Beumer, who manufactured the sortation machinery, are sending over their own team of engineers to install the new machinery. The extended hub will be able to sort over 500,000 parcels a night."

Last October more than 3,500 tons of soil – the weight equivalent of 75 blue whales – was moved to landfill in preparation for the expansion. One complete, the hub will be 1,345 ft long – the equivalent of about four Wembley football pitches. There will also be 20 additional loading bays, taking the overall total to 118.

The hub will go through tests before becoming operational in September, with 30 new staff set to be taken on.

Group to appeal over sign refusal

DEVELOPERS behind a scheme to install a huge advertising hoarding next to the M5 at West Bromwich are to take their battle to the planning inspectorate.

Insite Poster Group Limited wants to erect the 84ft tall V-shaped structure at land on the Giffords Recycling site in Kelvin Way near junction 1.

The scheme was thrown out by planners in November who complained it was "unacceptable" and would distract drivers.

Hearing

But developers have now appealed the decision and a hearing is expected to take place in spring.

Stuart Wellman, director of Insite Poster properties, said: "We were very disappointed, it was a very unfortunate decision. We thought it was a well conceived scheme in a sensible position and we don't really understand the council's reasons for refusal."

The structure would be visible 5ft above the carriageway level.

Planning officer John Dadd described the site as "unacceptable in terms of public safety and amenity".

Training HQ facing threat of closure

A TRAINING centre which employs 150 workers in Oldbury is facing closure due to council cuts.

Sandwell Council is discussing the future of its Training and Development Centre, which could close under plans to shut several buildings owned by the authority.

Some staff at the centre in Popes Lane have been issued with redundancy notices but it has not been revealed how many jobs are at risk.

The centre, the former Albright Secondary School, has been operating for around 25 years. It hosts conferences and training courses with IT workers and children's services staff also operating from the base.

Councillor Ian Jones, the council's cabinet member for jobs and economy said: "Options for the future of the Training and Development Centre are being reviewed but no decision has been made.

Efficient

"It is no secret that we are closing some council offices and moving staff to new locations in order to make our services more efficient and to save money. It is also no secret that the council is having to make cuts. The council is facing a massive reduction in the amount of funding it receives from the Government and jobs have already been lost and will continue to be lost, but this is in no way specific to staff at the Training and Development Centre."

He added that staff issued with redundancy notices were likely to be workers from areas such as children's services, which has already announced it is making redundancies.

Up to 1,000 staff at the council will lose their jobs.

Brian Rickers, spokesman from workers union Unite said: "The Training and Development Centre has been extremely successful and we would hate to see these facilities lost because of Government cuts."

Free meals plea goes to parents

FAMILIES in Sandwell who are entitled to free school dinners have been urged to apply for them in a bid to attract half a million pounds of Government funding.

For every child entitled to school meals, Sandwell schools will be given £430 under a scheme known as "pupil premium". Headteachers are being encouraged to spend it on reducing class sizes or more one-to-one tuition.

School meals cost parents £360 a year but those who claiming benefits are entitled to free meals for their children. There are around 10,500 pupils able to claim free school meals in the borough. But Sandwell Council believes there are more than 1,000 families – around 12 per cent – who do not claim.

Premium

Sandwell Council's cabinet member for children and families Councillor Bob Badham said: "The pupil premium is a way of securing more money for hard-pressed schools following draconian cuts by the Government. It will be given directly to schools – not the local authority – based on how many children are eligible for free school meals. This money will be given directly to the schools to enhance the child's education."

Anyone who wants to find out more about free school meals should call 0121 569 8189.

ABLE & BROMLEY CARPETS/BEDS
FURNITURE / RUGS / VINYLS & LAMINATES
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE
DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT? OR ANYONE WHO JUST NEEDS EXTRA HELP!
½ PRICE UNDERLAY
Available with this voucher when purchasing carpet from us.
JANUARY SALE
UP TO 75% OFF
We will easily beat your BIG Superstores
Choose at home service, 1000's of carpet samples and bed brochures to your door
FREE QUOTATIONS AND LOCAL DELIVERY
WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T
Take away your old carpets and beds. Move heavy furniture, uplift old carpets and shave doors
FREE OF CHARGE
MASSIVE BED SELECTION
Manager's Special
DOUBLE DIVAN MEMORY FOAM BED
WAS £899
Only £250
Headboard Extra
BROMLEY & ABLE CARPETS DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE
WAREHOUSE DORMSTON TRADING ESTATE BURTON ROAD, GORNAL
Tel: Sally 01902 880541
Showroom: 433 MOAT ROAD OLDBURY / SMETHWICK
Tel: Kieron Bromley 0121-544 2424
TIPTON / WEDNESBURY / WEST BROMWICH / GREAT BARR
Tel: Adrian Bromley 0121-530 3633

Former Baggies star Wallwork arrested

FORMER West Bromwich Albion star Ronnie Wallwork has been arrested by police as part of an investigation into serious and organised crime.

The 33-year-old former player of the year was arrested on suspicion of the theft of motor vehicles as he arrived at Manchester Airport on a flight. He was then questioned in connection with the handling of stolen vehicles.

The arrest was made by officers from Titan – a collaboration of specialist police from six forces across the north west established to tackle serious and organised crime.

Wallwork, from Failsworth, Oldham, was bailed until this week.

A Lancashire police spokesman said: "A 33-year-old man from the Manchester area was arrested on suspicion of theft of motor vehicles. He was bailed until January 18, 2011."

Wallwork started his career at Manchester United but failed to fully establish himself in the first team.

The midfielder was loaned out to Carlisle United and Stockport County and during a further loan spell at Royal Antwerp was banned from football for life for allegedly attacking a Belgian referee. However, the ban was later substantially reduced on appeal to a one year ban in Belgium only.

Wallwork joined West Bromwich Albion in 2002 on a free transfer, becoming the first player signed by Albion following their promotion to the Premier League.

He made his Albion debut as a substitute in a 3–1 home defeat to Leeds United and he went on to play in 27 of Albion's 38 Premier League games in 2002–03. He was named Player of the Year in 2004–05, when the club narrowly avoided relegation and remained at the club until 2008, with loan spells at Bradford City, Barnsley and Huddersfield Town.

Stabbed

Wallwork was transferred to Sheffield Wednesday in January 2008, but was released just four months later.

During time playing with Barnsley, in November 2006, he was repeatedly stabbed with a fish knife during an attack in the VIP area of the Sugar Lounge bar on Deansgate Locks in Manchester.

His attacker had flown into a jealous rage after seeing Wallwork with an ex-girlfriend.

Ronnie Wallwork

Burglar locked up after crime spree

A BURGLAR from Tipton who left a pensioner terrified when she saw him climbing her stairs during a spree of break-ins has been locked up for four years.

Jamie Wade smashed or sneaked his way into houses to steal jewellery, phones and cash leaving his victims "scared, disturbed and paranoid".

The 20-year-old was already carrying out a court community order at the time of his burglaries in Dudley and Sandwell.

Victims included a 76-year-old victim who found him climbing her stairs in the middle of the night, and a 39-year-old man who was woken to see Wade shining a torch in his face from the bedroom doorway.

Recorder Jason MacAdam told Wade: "That burglary spree has impacted on a number of people's lives. Every one of us can only begin to imagine what it must be like to be woken in the night in what people consider to be the safety of their home and find someone at the end of the bed.

"If it's a vulnerable 76-year-old women, then it becomes more serious."

Blood

Wade was caught after leaving a trail of blood at the scene of his final burglary, which was in Burkitt Drive, Tipton.

Wade, of Thompson House, Ocker Hill Road, Tipton, has a three-year-old daughter and a son aged one month. He admitted eight burglaries and stealing from a Peugeot after using a brick to smash its window.

Wade's burglaries included one at Station Street, Cradley Heath, on September 7 when the 39-year-old victim was woken up at 4.10am by a noise and saw a torch shining into his face through his open bedroom door. When Wade realised the house was occupied, he fled.

He had clambered in through an unlocked window and taken a mobile phone and cigarettes. The victim now feels "paranoid" about security and double checks that he has locked his windows and doors.

Crowbar

On October 29 the 76-year-old victim from Tipton was in bed at around 10pm when she heard a noise and saw Wade walking up her stairs. He had stolen a crowbar from her shed to force his way through the kitchen window. He stole a TV, watches and jewellery.

The victim felt "distressed, upset and vulnerable."

On that same date at Leabrook House Nursing Home in Ocker Hill, Wade broke in through a window and stole a TV, toiletries, clothing and shoes from a disabled resident.

Mr Julian Harris, defending, said Wade had a troubled upbringing.

In 2008, Wade had admitted burglaries and thefts, including a raid on the Brookwood Animal Sanctuary in Dudley.

MEET YOUR REPORTERS

Tim Spiers
01902 319363

Sarah Hazelwood
01902 319490

Annabel Mottram
01902 319499

Chris Feehan
01902 313131 ext 3213

What's happening in your area?
We are always keen to hear about any issues affecting you

Email your news and pictures to
sandwellchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

For advertising call
01902 319582

www.yourchronicle.com

Talks on bypass for town

A BYPASS could be built in West Bromwich under multi-million pound plans to transform the town.

The south west bypass would link the A4182 Kelvin Way with the A41 underpass at Swan Village.

Improvements would also be made to junction 1 of the M5 as part of the £500 million West Bromwich Area Action Plan.

The bypass would allow traffic to avoid the northern gateway to the town centre and junction 1.

Two other routes were previously suggested for the bypass, on skirting Greets Green Recreation Ground, and the other following the canal through industrial sites near Phoenix Street and Ryders Green Road. But both of those have now been ruled out.

The new route was being discussed at a meeting of the council's jobs and economy cabinet advisory team on Monday.

The project is expected to be brought forward over the next five years.

Future

Councillor Ian Jones, the borough's regeneration chief, said: "These plans are for the future and would require extensive consultation with the public.

"There is no money for it at the moment, given the current climate."

Junction improvements at Carters Green on the A41 and at Oldbury Road and Albion Road remain part of long-term proposals subject to funding. A 20mph zone is planned for the town centre.

Widening Trinity Way and Carters Green have, however, been dropped from future transport proposals.

Plans for the town include the £200m Tesco development, a £10m police station and a new £13m pool at the junction of Moor Street and Bromford Lane.

There will also be a new £6m extra care scheme in Oak Road, relocated from its original planned site in Coppice Street.

Library closures plan to save cash

sandwellchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

PLANS to close libraries are under discussion at Sandwell Council, following a survey of users.

Closures are part of a raft of plans announced last year, in a bid to save the authority almost £1 million.

Proposals under consideration also include redundancies and reduced opening hours, and "significant changes" will need to be made to the service.

Surveys have now been carried out with library users to identify their priorities, and the results are now being analysed by officers.

Ann Shackleton, Sandwell councillor and youth, culture and leisure boss, said: "We know that, following Government cuts, there will have to be significant savings in the library service over the next three years.

"We are reviewing our current service and have carried out a survey with library users to about what aspects of the service are most important to them.

"No decisions have been taken to close or reduce opening hours at any libraries. Any such proposals would be subject to further consultation with customers, staff and the wider public before any decisions were made."

Threat

While no specific libraries have been earmarked for closure as yet, Langley, Rounds Green and Brandhall Libraries in Oldbury, as well as Cradley Heath and Tipton have all been identified as those that could be under threat.

Sandwell Council is working on the basis that it will need to cut 20 per cent from its annual libraries budget of £4,769,800 – a total of £953,960.

There are 19 libraries in Sandwell with a total of 126 full-time staff.

Two new libraries, a £6 million development in Oldbury and a £1.9 million facility in Blackheath, are due to open in the borough this April.

Last week it was revealed six libraries in Walsall will shut with the loss of 21 jobs under council cost-cutting measures.

Walsall Council chiefs have yet to reveal which of the borough's 16 libraries will be axed under the plans.

It is believed the changes will save more than £1.3 million from 2012 to 2014. Since April 2009, all Walsall libraries have been closed on Mondays.

Sensory boost

In the new sensory room are Jonathan Price, aged six, and Ella Smith, five, with headteacher Liz Regan and chairman of the governors Bob Patel

A SCHOOL has a new £200,000 teaching block.

Great Bridge Primary's new Little Bridge building will be used for one-to-one speech and language work, literacy and numerous classes plus physiotherapy sessions.

It includes a sensory room filled with bubble tubes, fibre optic lights and soft furniture, to inspire youngsters.

In the past pupils were taught in corridors because of lack of room at the school in Mount Street, Tipton.

"We have a lot of children who need extra support," said head Liz Regan. "Previously these children would come out into the corridor to do extra reading, speech and language work. This was not acceptable. But the new building meets all our children's needs.

Young firefighters win backing for contest

WEDNESBURY Young Firefighters Association has received £1,000 funding for a trip to represent the UK in a competition in Slovenia.

The group have qualified for an international fire cadet competition which takes place later this year.

Wednesbury youngsters, aged 11 to 16, will team up with cadets from Binley Young Firefighters Association, in Coventry, to compete in Slovenia.

Organisers are looking for funds to help them take 50 youngsters to support the team. The club aims to raise £5,000 for travel, accommodation and food. They have received council backing to the tune of £1,000.

CONCEPT BLINDS
Winter Sale
Up to 50% off all Vertical and Roller Blinds
from a large selection of quality fabrics
Curved tracks for bay windows 40% off
Aluminium venetians 40% off
5yr guarantee
Also available
• Venetians • Pleated
• Conservatory Roof Blinds
• Wood Slat Venetians
FREE fitting on all blinds
Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge
FREEPHONE
0800 5875279
0121 429 3169
FREE no obligation home quote FAST delivery

LOOK
Storage Problems Solved
New or larger loft access, Aluminium ladder, Strengthen existing joists, Board complete floor, Insulate between rafters, One Velux roof window, Plaster board rafters (maximum 400 sq ft, others to be quoted)
FITTED £3250
First 10 orders receive FREE upgrade to wooden folding ladder
SPECIAL OFFER
New or larger loft hatch, Aluminium loft ladder, 80 sq ft tongue & groove flooring, Loft light, Smoke detector
FITTED £375
ATTIC ACCESS
Tel: 01684 892056 or 01684 891210
Hobby Room, Storage

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -
Make Your Will
Only £60.00 plus VAT
Per person for couples, Mirror Wills.
Single Wills £65.00 plus VAT
A home visit at a convenient time
For information and appointment call
0845 678 7010
Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Will Storage, Estate Planning and Guardianship Trusts
Members of the Society of Will Writers
Goodwills Ltd
www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

Buy direct at factory prices
Blinds 2 Go Direct
CALL OUT
MEASURING
QUOTATION
FITTING
Specialists in Vertical, Venetian & Roller Blin
E: info@blinds2godirect.co.uk W. www.blinds2godirect.co
VERTICAL BLINDS
3 for £99 5 for £149
CONSERVATORY SPECIALS
Offer subject to Terms and Conditions. Ask for more details
Telephone: 0121 772 069
FREEPHONE: 08000 141 7

Beaten up for asking for a ciggie

A ROW over a light for a cigarette in a nightclub queue ended in a 21-year-old man being beaten up, a judge heard.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Maxwell Penrith was chased from outside Insomnia nightclub in Bradford Place, Walsall, before being cornered by Dean Jones, also 21, and a 17-year-old, who held him as Gavin Todd, 21, of West Bromwich, knocked him to the ground and kicked him in the head.

Prosecutor Warren Stanier said Todd and the teenager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, exchanged a "celebratory high five."

The three were arrested after the attack was captured by CCTV camera and all three admitted the assault on October 23 which left Penrith with cuts and bruises.

Jailed

Matthew Barnes, defending Todd and Jones said: "The unfortunate victim was drunk, pestered Todd for a cigarette and would not take no for an answer."

Todd, from Crankhall Road, Stone Cross, who had previous convictions, was jailed for 20 months.

Jones, of Long Bank Road, Tividale received an eight month sentence and the teenager got an 18 month rehabilitation order, four month night curfew and ordered to do 100 hours unpaid work.

Pupils name new homes

A NEW housing complex on the site of a former eyesore block has been named Parkside View.

The development has been built at the site of the old Bearwood House in Bearwood Road, Smethwick, and includes 17 flats and 11 houses.

Year Four pupils from Victoria Park Primary School in Smethwick chose the name for the apartments, which w will be available for rent and are being built on the site opposite Victoria Park. They have been built by construction company Lovell Partnerships Ltd.

Demolished

Bearwood House was demolished in August 2008.

Tim Powell, senior site manager for Lovell, said: "We were all impressed with the amount of research the pupils had done, including investigating the history of the area at the heritage centre. It was a pleasure to have been involved with the school."

Funding call for second festival

AN arts festival could return in Sandwell this year – despite no money yet being available to fund it.

The first Sandwell Arts Festival was held last year and was deemed a success with 17,000 people taking part. Sandwell's cabinet member for culture Councillor Ann Shackleton was this week being asked to support proposals for a second festival this year. However, a report states at the moment there is no money to fund it. The council would need to find £10,000 in order to secure £15,000 funding from the Arts Council.

Footballer speed charge

FOOTBALLER Marcus Bent has been charged with speeding on the M5 at up to 120mph.

The 32-year-old striker from Essex, who has just returned to Birmingham City FC following a loan spell with Wolves, is charged with speeding in a Bentley on the motorway at Junction 2 Oldbury at 6pm on October 2.

He did not appear at Warley Magistrates Court on Friday but entered a not guilty plea in his absence to the charge of speeding in excess of the 70mph motorway limit.

The plea came in a letter from Bent's solicitors. He is due to appear at Warley Magistrates Court on March 21 for trial.

Chris Kershaw, spokesman for Birmingham City FC, said: "It's an ongoing legal matter so the club will not comment.

Ikea store sales surge

IKEA, the Swedish furniture giant with a major store in Wednesbury, has announced a 7.7 per cent surge in sales to £19.56 billion.

The group also revealed net profit for the 12 months to August 31 2010, was up 6.1 per cent to £2.3 billion.

Ikea, which has 283 stores in 26 countries, said the strong result was due to increasing sales, higher gross margins and improvements of the cost structure of the business.

Chief executive Mikael Ohlsson said: "Profits give us the resources to grow and reach more people, as well as lowering prices. The main part of the profit was reinvested in existing and 12 new stores to become even more inspiring and accessible. People appreciate value for money and functional products at affordable prices."

£8m payout for girl hit by hospital bug

sandwellchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A MOTHER has been awarded an £8 million damages payout from Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust after her daughter was left severely disabled by a cocktail of hospital superbugs.

Baby Ayesha Canning-Kishver was so tiny – weighing just 1lb 12oz – when she was born prematurely at 25 weeks that it was a "miracle" she lived, a top judge said.

Despite being so premature, Ayesha was healthy when she was delivered and doing well, Mr Justice Butterfield, sitting at London's High Court, said on Friday.

Ayesha and Shahana Kishver

However, Ayesha picked up a double infection of staphylococcos epidermidis and klebsiella organisms while being cared for in the neonatal intensive care unit at Birmingham City Hospital in July 1997.

Mr Simeon Maskrey QC, for the family, said that negligence led to delay in the infections being picked up and treated. As a result, Ayesha's condition became "almost terminal" before she was brought back from the brink again.

Damage

But she suffered brain damage and Mr Maskrey said she would need care for the rest of her life.

Ayesha's mother, Shahana Kishver, 54, of Coventry, brought the claim against Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, the managers of the hospital.

The trust denied that the negligence of their staff had led to the infections causing brain damage but were found to be liable after a High Court trial in 2008.

Last week, 13 years after Ayesha's birth, the trust agreed to pay the family a damages package worth £8m.

The trust said: "We regret the delay in responding to Ayesha's symptoms."

Academy faces making support staff cut backs

TWENTY support staff at a Sandwell school face the axe as it battles to save £500,000 in the next year.

Spendiong cuts threaten positions at the Phoenix Collegiate Academy.

Executive headteacher of the school Brian Heavisides said he was "fiercely disappointed" at the cuts.

The academy is the result of a merger of Manor Foundation in Friar Park Road, Wednesbury, and Menzies, in Clarkes Lane, West Bromwich.

It is one of nine in the borough to have had a revamp scrapped after £26m worth of funding was lost under the Building Schools for the Future scheme.

Mr Heavisides, who was handpicked by Sandwell Council bosses to lead the merger, said: "The reality is we are facing a significant budget shortfall.

"With that in mind we have had no alternative but to turn to reducing staff.

Risk

"Currently there are 20 positions in the school that are at risk.

"We hope to achieve reduction through, as far as possible, voluntary redundancies rather than compulsory but we might have to go to compulsory.

"At the moment it is support staff that we are looking at, which is everything from people engaged in the running of libraries through to those involved in the administration side of the school," he added.

First steps in salsa

Ready for the salsa dance taster session at the Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy is co-ordinator Carol Wilson with school caretaker Fred Hipkiss

DANCE fans are being invited to a salsa taster session at a Tividale school next month.

The Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy is holding the event as part of a series of adult community classes. As well as an eight-week computer course which starts on January 24, the school in Lower City Road is holding taster sessions to find out what activities people in the community would like to see available.

Carol Wilson, co-ordinator, said: "The salsa class is one of the new activities. We also have an introduction to computers course, emergency first aid, fitness yoga and a charity quiz night."

The salsa taster session will be on February 9 from 6pm, a fitness yoga session will be held on February 16, and a first aid class starts on February 1, at 10am. Call Mrs Wilson on (0121) 552 5501 extension five.

The Public is breaking even thanks to handouts

WEST Bromwich's £72 million arts centre The Public is only just breaking even, according to its most recent accounts.

Financial reports submitted by Sandwell Arts Trust, which runs the troubled building, show the company made just £249,262 from hiring out the venue and running its programme of arts activities during the seven months leading up to last March.

Grants of £1.13m from Sandwell Council and Arts Council England took the total income to £1,382,498.

However, outgoings, including wages, overheads and payments to creditors totalled £1,382,306, leaving the trust with just £192 in net assets.

The accounts cover the time period from June 2009, when work began to establish the arts trust to March 2010.

The trust took over the management of the centre in September 2009.

Figures submitted by the arts trust show hiring out rooms for conferences and meetings brought in £133,841, running arts workshops and other educational sessions made £21,518 and cash from other activities, including tickets for concerts and other events, £54,850.

Renting space to private companies, catering and selling goods, brought in £38,572, with £481 earned in interest.

Spending

Spending included staff costs of £561,702, £124,232 on running the building and governance costs including insurance and auditors of £18,625. It also included payments to creditors of £352,456.

Sandwell Council will continue to fund The Public next year, providing at least £1m to cover running costs.

Arts Council England provided £32m towards the creation of The Public, and gave the centre a final £3m grant in 2008 to be spent over three years on running costs.

Sandwell Council has until January 24 to submit a bid for more cash from the funding body, with a final decision coming at the end of March.

Linda Saunders, managing director of The Public said: "We are submitting a funding bid to the Arts Council, but we are also approaching other funding bodies.

Cautious

"We have had to consider what will happen if sufficient funds are not made available but this is merely being cautious. One of the things we must do as a responsible company is assess risk.

"People need to take into account that the figures submitted are for the first seven months of trading. When a full year of accounts is submitted it will show the full picture."

According to figures from Sandwell Arts Trust, 90,335 people attended the centre in the period ending in March 2010.

A total of 44 people were employed by the end of March last year, which has since risen to 60.

SANDWELL GLASS AND GLAZING LTD
NO DEPOSIT TAKEN • ONLY PAY WHEN FULLY SATISFIED • NO HIGH PRESSURE SALES PEOPLE • ESTABLISHED 13 YEARS
REPLACING THE UNIT IS THE ONLY SOLUTION
10% off for one week
Give your windows something to smile about!
HAS YOUR DOUBLE GLAZING FAILED?
Sandwell Glazing specialises in replacing the glass only at a fraction of the original installation cost - THE ONLY WAY IS TO REPLACE - All old units are recycled and all units are manufactured at our own premises - Supply only or Supply and fit - Give us your sizes for an instant quote
REPLACE THE GLASS ONLY
5 YR GUARANTEE ON SEALED UNITS
Subject to survey of existing installation
£5,000,000 public liability
Professional & Reliable Service
0121 556 9888
LINES OPEN TILL 10pm

DJM DOMESTICS
Establish 15 year
Telephone 0121-358 018
Appliance Sales, Spares, Repairs and Service
New and Reconditioned Appliances available
92 Old Walsall Road, Great Barr, Birmingham
AUTHORISED DYSON REPAIR SPECIALIS

BARGAIN BLINDS
5 Quality Vertical Blinds From £189
We will Beat Any Like for Like Quote
50% OFF Selected Blinds
Curved Blind Specialist (For Bow, Bay Window)
FREE Home Quote
FREE Fitting
FAST Local Service
Verticals Rollers Venetian Wooden Conservatory
Quality Products / Quality Prices
0800 0347 111
www.ukbargainblinds.co.uk

KITCHENS AND BATHROOMS
Fully Fitted including Tiling, Electrics and Plumbing
10 REASONS TO HAVE AN IDEAL HOMECARE BATHROOM OR KITCHEN
● Family business established over 20 years
● Vast majority of work comes from recommendations
● FREE home design service, we listen to you and design to your requirements
● Large choice of design, 100s of doors, worktops, tiles, sinks and taps to choose from, but do not worry, we are here to help and advise what is right for you
● We project manage from start to finish
● We can supply only, or complete the whole project, including tiling, electrics, plumbing, building, plastering and even decorating
● All rubbish removed at the end of the project
● Gas Safe fitters (formerly Corgi)
● NICEIC Registered electricians
● Quality products at realistic prices
NO VAT INCREASE CALL NOW
Open 10am-4pm Closed Wednesday and Sunday
IDEAL HOMECARE
5 Hall Green Road, Stone Cross, West Bromwich B71 3JS
Telephone: 0121 588 5737
See our virtual showroom at www.idealhomecare.co.uk

thechronicle

Borough bottom of school tables again

SECONDARY schools in Sandwell remain among the worst in the country in the school league tables, based on statistics looking at pupils' GCSE results.

Just 43.6 per cent of pupils in the borough achieved the benchmark of at least five A* to C grades at GCSE including English and maths.

This ranked Sandwell 147th out of a list of 152 authorities. However, the results were still an improvement on last year when the borough was ranked 148th and 37.5 per cent of pupils achieved the GCSE benchmark.

Perryfields High School in Oldbury had the best GCSE results in the borough. Out of 195 pupils taking the exams at the Oldacre Road school, 64 per cent achieved at least five A* to C-grades at GCSE, including English and maths.

In terms of value added – a measurement for how pupils' grades improve during their time at school – George Salter Collegiate Academy in West Bromwich had one of the best scores in the country with 1053.0. A total of 39 per cent of pupils achieved at least five A* to C GCSE grades.

Doubled

The most improved school in the borough was Stuart Bathurst in Wednesbury where the number of pupils achieving at least five A* to C-grades at GCSE, including English and maths, doubled from 26 per cent to 56 per cent.

Just 21 per cent of pupils met the benchmark at Manor Foundation College in Wednesbury, giving it the worst GSCE results in Sandwell.

Sandwell College had the worst A-level results, with pupils scoring an average of 439.8.

The average score in the borough per pupil at A-level was 607.6.

The authority was ranked 145th for A-level results with an average of 607.6 points per candidate.

Improvement

Sandwell Council's education boss Bob Badham said: "I know we are still ranked near the bottom but the results are a dramatic improvement on last year.

"The overall picture is a marked improvement.

"I know we still have a long way to go but we are moving the schools in the right direction.

"This is a real significant improvement, and it ought to be celebrated.

"I believe results will be up again next year."

SCHOOLS in Birmingham have climbed the league tables after improved GCSE results.

The authority climbed from 101 to 73rd place in the rankings this year.

Perry Beeches School in the city was named the most improved school in the entire country for GCSE results. A total of 53 per cent of pupils gained five or more A* to C grades.

Birmingham's King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls was seventh best in the country for its GCSE results.

Pupils in Wolverhampton schools are performing better in their GCSEs and A-levels compared with last year.

The city has recorded its best ever results for the seventh year running at GCSE level. It climbed 28 places up to 105 for its GCSE results, with 52.1 per cent of pupils achieving five or more A*-C-grades including English and maths. And although Wolverhampton remained ranked 137 nationally for A-level results, the average score per candidate jumped from 633.3 up to 642.6.

The city's best-performing schools included Wolverhampton Girls' High, with 99 per cent of pupils getting at least five A* to C-grades. Wolverhampton Grammar School was second with 98 per cent of pupils reaching the expected standard.

Dudley has again been named the best performing of the four Black Country boroughs, finishing 51st out of 151 in the league tables.

Schools in Walsall are celebrating rising GCSE results and the authority has maintained its position in the league tables. Most improved was St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College.

Sandwell

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
Alexandra High School	244	39%	12	449.4	0%	998.3	505.1	10	15.10%
Bristnall Hall Technology College, Oldbury	**187**	**42%**	**9**	**445.6**	**5%**	**998.8**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**8.70%**
George Salter Collegiate Academy	174	39%	11	618.1	2%	1053	n/a	n/a	6.10%
The Heathfield Foundation College	**316**	**42%**	**8**	**548.2**	**9%**	**993.9**	**610.4**	**7**	**7.70%**
Holly Lodge Foundation College, Smethwick	260	39%	13	380.6	4%	985.8	n/a	n/a	5.90%
Manor Foundation College, Wednesbury	**128**	**21%**	**17**	**371.1**	**1%**	**973.1**	**599**	**8**	**9.80%**
Menzies High School, West Bromwich	235	38%	14	381.1	5%	981.2	531.8	9	4.10%
Oldbury College of Sport	**301**	**46%**	**6**	**447.3**	**7%**	**1028.7**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**7.40%**
Ormiston Sandwell Community Academyy	143	50%	5	433.3	1%	989.7	n/a	n/a	6.80%
Perryfields High School, Oldbury	**195**	**64%**	**1**	**639.5**	**13%**	**1023.9**	**500.8**	**11**	**4.00%**
The Phoenix Collegiate, West Bromwich	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Q3 Academy, Birmingham	**170**	**63%**	**2**	**386.8**	**4%**	**974.4**	**657.4**	**6**	**4.80%**
RSA Academy, Tipton	210	45%	7	615.6	0%	1022.1	712.7	2	5.50%
St Michael's CofE High School	**197**	**30%**	**16**	**355.9**	**3%**	**968.6**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**8.40%**
Sandwell Academy, West Bromwich	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	798.2	1	2.30%
Sandwell College	**0**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**439.8**	**12**	**n/a**
Shireland Collegiate Academy, Smethwick	167	34%	15	341.3	1%	994.3	665.3	5	6.00%
Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School	**144**	**52%**	**4**	**575.4**	**5%**	**1024**	**706.8**	**3**	**4.00%**
Wodensborough Community College	204	42%	10	443.8	0%	1023.8	n/a	n/a	6.80%
Wood Green High School, Wednesbury	**244**	**59%**	**3**	**388.8**	**7%**	**1007**	**703.9**	**4**	**3.80%**

Birmingham

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
The Arthur Terry School, Sutton Coldfield	247	80%	12	483.7	17%	1002.9	874.7	14	2.40%
Aston Manor School	**141**	**52%**	**44**	**514.4**	**9%**	**1042.9**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**5.50%**
Bishop Vesey's Grammar Schoo	124	98%	11	505.3	68%	1002.7	1040.1	9	1.10%
Bishop Walsh Catholic School	**146**	**76%**	**15**	**539.6**	**28%**	**1011.4**	**718.2**	**21**	**3.50%**
Fairfax School, Sutton Coldfield	220	61%	29	494.8	28%	992.8	743.1	20	2.50%
Great Barr School	**397**	**45%**	**64**	**405.9**	**6%**	**973.1**	**609**	**32**	**5.90%**
Handsworth Grammar School	137	99%	8	606.5	31%	999.3	841.4	16	1.10%
Handsworth Wood Girls College	**122**	**45%**	**63**	**531.5**	**3%**	**1015.2**	**330**	**53**	**5.40%**
John Willmott School, Sutton Coldfield	189	52%	47	446.3	4%	992.7	684.1	26	4.90%
Plantsbrook School, Sutton Coldfield	**206**	**69%**	**24**	**464.6**	**17%**	**1005.4**	**903**	**12**	**4.20%**
Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls	153	100%	2	634.8	78%	1003.4	1185.1	4	0.50%

Key **This shows every secondary school, listed alphabetically for each local education authority area and, from left to right, after the school name and details, the table shows:**

a. The number of pupils eligible for GCSE and equivalent qualifications. This is defined as the number of pupils at the start of Key Stage 4, which usually means all pupils in Year 11.
b. The proportion of candidates getting five A* to C-grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths.
c. The rank within its local authority which the school achieved according to the proportion of pupils getting five Cs in GCSE subjects including English and maths. Ties are broken by average GCSE points score.
d. The average GCSE points score per pupil. GCSEs and qualifications judged to be "equivalent" to GCSEs are assigned points. For example, a GCSE, grade B = 46 points; National Certificate in Business, merit = 196 points. There are too many qualifications now being included to list each one alongside its points score.
e. The percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate (see notes to Table 5 for explanation).
f. The school's Key Stage 2 (age 11) to GCSE contextual value-added score (see notes to Table 7 for explanation).
g. The A-Level points score per candidate, including other "equivalent" qualifications.
h. The rank within its local authority the school achieved according to its A-Level points score per candidate. Ties are broken by the average number of points scored per exam entry (figure not shown).
i. The percentage of pupils who were persistently absent.
NOTE: Care should be taken when comparing results for schools with small numbers of pupils eligible for the exams.

Perryfields is the best

Lukbir Verdi, aged 16, head Dai Meredith, Kieran James, 16, and Jessica Stockton, 15, of Perryfields High

AN OLDBURY school partially closed because of a burst pipe last week was given reason to celebrate by the league tables.

Perryfields High School had been hit by a problem when a burst pipe damaged 14 classrooms but spirits soared after statistics showed it had achieved the best GCSE results in Sandwell.

"We are delighted with the results, I knew we would be one of the best-performing schools in Sandwell," said headteacher Dai Meredith.

"I have been here for nine years and during that time we have grown incredibly."

Out of 195 pupils taking the exams at the Oldacre Road school, 64 per cent achieved at least five A* to C-grades at GCSE, including English and maths. This was an improvement of six per cent on last year.

Local authority performances

A table of local authorities ranked by the average percentage of candidates getting at least five A* to C-grades at GCSE, including English and maths, in their schools.

1.	Kensington and Chelsea	71.3%	74.	Worcestershire	54.9%
29.	Solihull	60.1%	86.	Staffordshire	54%
44.	Shropshire	57.8%	105.	Wolverhampton	52.1%
51.	Dudley	56.4%	131.	Walsall	49.5%
58.	Telford and Wrekin	55.9%	147.	Sandwell	43.6%
73.	Birmingham	54.9%	151.	Knowsley	38%

A table of local authorities, ranked by the average A-level points score per candidate.

1.	Sutton	863.8	95.	Staffordshire	699.1
36.	Shropshire	749.6	111.	Solihull	682
46.	Dudley	741.7	130.	Walsall	650.5
67.	Telford and Wrekin	720.8	137.	Wolverhampton	642.6
79.	Birmingham	712.3	145.	Sandwell	607.6
89.	Worcestershire	704.5	149.	Newham	573.8

Condensation o
Moisture in you
Windows ?
Don't replace, Repair. Our proven process quic
removes condensation from sealed units for hal
the price to replace.
20 Year Insurance Backed Guarantee
On-Site no need to remove the glass
Over 300,000 units already saved from landfill.
Free Quotation
01902 488915
Dealers All Across the UK
www.crystalclearwindow.co.uk

Worcester • Vallient • Verolli • Glow Worm • Baxi Main • Ideal
www.plumbingpoint.co.uk
plumbingpoint
DARLASTON
Unit E, Alma Estate, Stafford Road, Darlaston, WS10 8SX t: 0121 568 8268
Compare our Prices with your local stores
We will not be beaten!!
SHOWERS
1200 slider 8 m Glass 1200 x 800 Tray £300 Complete
800 Quad inc. Tray Curved glass 6mm toughened glass - Lifetime guarantee £240
All come with a polished chrome finish 6mm safety glass, chrome capped double runner wheels top and bottom, quick release doors, magnetic door seals and fixing are conceded
Bathroom Fitting Service NOW AVAILABLE
LUXURY BATH PACK Including: Cosmopolitan 4 Piece 1 Tap Hole Set with Soft Close
Seat, Cosmos 1700x700mm Heavy Duty Bath, Cosmos Luxury Front Bath Panel, Regal Monobloc with Pop Up Waste, Regal Bath/Shower Mixer, Bath Combination Waste & Chrome Plated Plug £240
L Shaped Bath with Panel inc. wooden panel, screen and bath PRICE CAN'T BE BEATEN £385
Bathroom Suites from £170
Amazing Offer
Yubo 1000 Vanity Unit inc BTW Unit & Basin, Tap, Cistern and Pan £200
BOILERS
Complete central heating system supplied and fitted from £1700
Worcester 28 Junior I including flue and clock.....£890
Ferroli 31 HE Plus Optimax, 5 years parts and labour..£620
Sime 25 HE Grade A Boiler, Econ Port Plus.....£499
Fascias and Guttering also supplied
4 mtr Gutter £6.50
Gutter Bracket £0.50
Soffit £5.50
5.5 Downpipe £8.00
Sq or round, black, white or brown
BATHROOM CLADDING
Choice of Colours £8 per length
BATH SCREENS
From £65
Lifetime Guarantee
BATHROOM CABINETS
Wide Choice available, start from £65 up to £180
TOWEL RAILS
Good selection on show, comprehensive prices start from £65
SHOWROOM NOW OPEN • MOST ITEMS IN STOCK
Worcester • Vallient • Verolli • Glow Worm • Baxi Main • Ideal

PLUMB
WINDOWS & DOORS
We Supply and Fit Windows and Doors
• Porches & Canopies
• Only FENSA Approved units
• Toughened K Glass
• Free Quotes
• Full range of front and back doors Fitted From £340
• Special rates for O. A. P. s

CALL PAUL
07974 140460

Argos in U-turn on site plan

ARGOS has abandoned plans to open a store in Wednesbury.

The company had been considering the Gallagher Retail Park off Junction 9 of the M6. The shopping park, off Axletree Way, has attracted a number of big-name stores recently, with Mamas & Papas, Decathlon, TK Maxx and Outfit opening up on the site in the past year.

Argos bosses confirmed that they had an interest in building a new store in the area last year but have admitted that the decision has now been reversed.

Denise Bigwood, spokeswoman for Argos, said: "Argos reviews its store portfolio regularly for potential new store locations. We can confirm we have no plans to open a store at Wednesbury at the current time."

Expansion

Meanwhile, work on an expansion of the nearby Ikea gets under way this month.

The firm will invest £6.8million on the extension, creating 23 jobs. The money, £5m of which has been set aside for construction, will be spent doubling the size of the customer restaurant, enlarging the lobby area and increasing the size of the shop floor to fit in more stock.

The first phase of the scheme will see an extension of the restaurant. It will also include increasing the size of the play area, lobby and toilets.

MP predicts coalition split

A SANDWELL Labour MP says another General Election may be called in May.

Tom Watson, MP for West Bromwich East, said a "devilishly well-placed Conservative insider" told him Prime Minister David Cameron wanted a snap election.

He said the rationale was that Liberal Democrats were so damaged, they were unreliable with, he claimed, Nick Clegg increasingly paranoid about Tory ministers making announcements without clearing it with him.

"It's getting to the point where they cannot be relied upon as the "majority" in the chamber. "To hold a snap election, Cameron needs the coalition to fail. That is, the Conservatives need to find a point of disagreement which they can say is so fundamental that they cannot possibly acquiesce to the demands of their coalition partners."

Corrie actress stars in play

ASIAN theatre production Gandhi and Coconuts is to be staged at The Public in West Bromwich.

The play stars Sophiya Haque, who played Poppy Morales in Coronation Street, as a bored Asian wife who escapes into a world of fantasy.

It is staged at the New Street venue on February 18 and 19. Tickets for the show are £8 in advance and £10 on the door. Call the box office on 0121 533 7161

Tougher 'lap dance' rules

PEOPLE wanting to run lap dancing clubs in Sandwell will have to apply for a new licence from now on.

Sandwell Council agreed to take on new powers to control opening of 'sexual entertainment' venues.

The powers, agreed at a full council meeting, will allow the council to decline an application for a lap dancing club on the grounds of its unsuitable location or that there are already such clubs in the area. The council can also place certain conditions to regulate a club's hours.

Councillors have welcomed the new powers, saying that it will give them greater say over issues such as where such venues can be sited.

There are two lap dancing clubs already open in Sandwell and both need to apply for the new licence.

New owner at office block

REAL Estate Investors, the property group headed by Black Country tycoon Paul Bassi, has bought Kingston House in West Bromwich for £3.1 million.

The office block is the headquarters of Sandwell Primary Care Trust, which pays £250,000 a year in rent. Its current tenancy agreement continues until July 2019.

With other tenants, the fully-let six-storey building, on the High Street, brings in a total rent of around £365,000 a year.

Stock Exchange-listed REI told the City it had exchanged contracts to acquire the building for cash.

Chief executive Mr Bassi, from Pedmore, said: "We believe this latest acquisition is an excellent addition to our rapidly growing portfolio of income generating properties."

Brawl bar licence revoked

A WEST Bromwich bar and pool hall which was the scene of a stabbing and two mass brawls has lost its licence.

A 17-year-old boy was stabbed six times outside the Robins Nest bar and pool hall, in Great Bridge Street, on December 5, prompting police to apply for the licence to be suspended on December 17, pending a full hearing into the bar's future.

Last week the bar's licence was revoked by Sandwell Licensing Panel after a full hearing into the trouble at the premises.

The panel heard that police first ordered a licence review in September after a mass brawl in February, another fight involving 30 to 40 people in December 2009 and a fight involving 13 people in September 2009.

Pc Jim Potts, licensing officer for Tipton and Wednesbury police, said: "The Robins Nest bar and pool hall was poorly run."

Church

He added that Carl Dalvair, who leased the venue from owner Inderdeep Riaar was told to comply with new conditions on his licence in September. However, Mr Riaar said he was not aware that he had been named the designated premises supervisor.

Mr Riaar spent £150,000 converting a derelict church into the bar after buying the freehold in 2007.

He said: "I'm going to have to talk to my solicitors. "Rent from the pub is my main livelihood."

Actress Josie to be freeman of borough

sandwellchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

ACTRESS Josie Lawrence was hailed "a wonderful person" as councillors agreed to make her a freeman of the borough.

Members agreed to bestow the honour on Whose Line Is It Anyway? and former EastEnders star Josie Lawrence at a full meeting of Sandwell Council.

Council leader Darren Cooper said: "She is an absolutely wonderful person who has done a lot for all the people she knows.

"She is an esteemed local actress and we want people to know that we are proud of the Sandwell residents who go on to achieve great things."

Josie Lawrence

Born in Old Hill, 51-year-old Josie was well known for improvisation comedy show Whose Line Is It Anyway? as well as for playing Amanda Best in EastEnders.

She started her career at the Barlow Theatre in Oldbury, where she is a patron. She has performed with the Royal Shakespeare Company and received the Dame Peggy Ashcroft award for best actress in the 1990s.

She is well-known for her considerable charity work and has helped raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for breast cancer research and to provide help for children suffering from autism and special needs.

Honours

During her career she has received honorary doctorates from Dartington, the University of Wolverhampton and Aston University.

Josie is the 11th honorary freeman of Sandwell and the second actress to be given the privilege. She follows Smethwick-born actress Julie Walters who was given the title in 2004. Others who have received the accolade include comedian Frank Skinner and former Baggies player Cyrille Regis.

Josie's mother Kath Lawrence, who lives in Cradley Heath, said the award was "a great honour".

Being a freeman of the borough is a purely honorary position but Josie may be asked to attend certain public events as a result.

The actress, who lives in London, will receive her award at a formal ceremony in March.

Rush for jobs at new store

MORE than 200 people applied for 10 jobs at a new Tesco store in Sandwell in just three days.

The supermarket is opening an Express store in a former pub on Bristnall Hall Lane in Oldbury on January 28.

Store manager Dawn Manning said: "I was thrilled by the huge response we received to our recruitment drive – receiving over 200 applications in just three days is really overwhelming. In this time of economic uncertainty, it is great that we are able to create jobs and help get people back into work.

"I am really pleased with my new team and I'm looking forward to working with my new staff."

The chain will transform the old Beeches pub which dates back to 1955. The site includes a car park and 30 parking spaces.

It is the latest store the chain has opened in the borough. On October 25 an Express store opened in Bearwood Road, Smethwick, creating 12 new jobs.

Pub

The Beeches pub had been the subject of complaints by nearby residents and was reviewed by Sandwell Council's licensing committee last January.

YMCA choose contractor

Fraser Mercer, managing director of construction firm Frank Haslam Milan, and YMCA chief executive Steve Clay at the site in West Bromwich where building work is under way

A CONTRACTOR has been appointed to start work on the first phase of a £10 million redevelopment of West Bromwich's YMCA.

Frank Haslam Milan has been awarded the £900,000 contract to carry out work on the first stages of the Western Gateway project.

The firm which is based in Coleshill, specialises in regenerating social housing, delivering new-build projects and extra care. As part of the package, the company will extend the YMCA for a new day nursery and art youth centre.

Under plans the Carters Green base will be knocked down and rebuilt, with the new glass-fronted seven storey building set to include a gym, pavement cafe, offices and studio apartments. All set to open in the summer.

Cheaper cafe is in the pink

BOSSES at West Bromwich arts centre The Public are looking for new staff for its Pink Tank cafe.

Couture Catering, the company behind the food and hospitality service at the £72 million centre, quit the venue in November to "refocus its activities" in Manchester and London, after being at the town centre venue for just two years.

The arts centre is now running its own catering operation and bosses are looking to take on around five new staff.

The Public managing director Linda Saunders said: "We are looking to double our workforce of about four or five people, and have had about 20 applications so far. This will not cost the centre any more money. These are casual, zero hour contracts and people will be called in as and when they are needed. This would avoid overworking our existing staff and will mean that rather then having one worker covering a 12 hours shift, we could have two workers doing six hours each."

Mrs Saunders said that the cafe, which now offers cheaper food was doing well. She added: "Takings are up by 10 per cent already, despite us cutting prices.

"We are offering cheaper, more basic meals including jacket potatoes, soups and stews, which have been very popular.

Affordable Windows
MANUFACTURER SUPPLYING THE TRADE AND PUBLIC
Doors And Conservatories
Finance available
www.affordablewindows.info
★ SPECIAL OFFERS ★
3m x 3m Conservatories
Edwardian Style
Brickwork, Tiling, Electrics & Plastering
£4,795
★ SPECIAL OFFER ★
Half Moon Door Supplied & Fitted
£350
★ SPECIAL OFFERS ★
FRONT DOORS £395
BACK DOORS £350
SPECIAL OFFERS
5 Windows 2 Doors
£1700
Bay Windows
fitted from £495
10 Year Guarantee Replacement Glass/General Maintenance Undertaken • FREE quotes - ALL GENUINE QUOTES BEATEN!!!
FENSA Registered Company
Insurance Backed Guarantee
01902 566 832 / 07710 434223
FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
6 HAINGE ROAD, TIVIDALE B69 2NF
Pictures for illustration purposes only

Up to 30% Off Concrete Buildings
Concrete Garages and Sheds
UP TO 6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE CREDIT
Show Model Sale Now On
Sheds, Workshops and Summerhouses
6ft x 4ft
from £185
8ft x 6ft
from £250
Free delivery and fitting
16ft 2in x 8ft 6in Concrete Garage
Old Buildings Removed, Bases Laid
Ten Year Guarantee
Compton from £999
Estimates Given Free
West Bromwich (Jct 1/M5)
Tel: 0121 553 4682
Tildasley Street, West Bromwich B70 9SJ
(next to Staples)
www.bettabuildings.co.uk
Old Buildings Removed
Site Clearance
Base Laying Service
Electrical Supply
Landscaping/Decking
Fencing
Block Paving
BETTA BUILDINGS

thechronicle

Maintenance men trapped the beast in their workshop then ran for their lives

Betty's story of when a lion roamed the park

Betty Finney with her book Children's Stories of Dartmouth Park

MEMORIES of an escaped lion and a tame owl are among recollections shared by a pensioner in a new children's book about West Bromwich's Dartmouth Park.

Betty Finney, aged 80, has penned stories about her time in the park for the book, Children's Stories of Dartmouth Park.

In one recollection, she describes how two park maintenance men – Ron and Tom – saw what they thought was a dog wander into their workshop – which turned out to be a lion.

The two saw the animal wander in and when they went to investigate they saw a lion eating Ron's lunch.

Trouble

"The circus had come to the park the day before and the lion must have escaped from his cage," Mrs Finney said.

"They quietly shut the workshop door and ran as fast as their legs would carry them to tell the lion tamer.

"The lion tamer was very calm and told them not to worry.

"He had a cage on wheels which they helped him push to the workshop.

"Without very much trouble they soon got the lion safely back where he belonged."

Mrs Finney has lived in and around Dartmouth Park all her life.

As a child she lived with her family in Hope Street, close to the Herbert Street entrance. As a teenager she lived in a cottage in Dagger Lane and eventually moved into New Street Lodge, which is situated in the park itself.

Betty Finney with Carol Hartill, left, who wrote a book about the history of the Dartmouth family and their association with the park

Betty Finney at the launch of restoration plans for the park

Mrs Finney's late husband Bill had a job loaning out the golf clubs for Dartmouth Park after he left school. In another recollection in the book, Mrs Finney describes how she was sleeping with her window open when an owl landed on her window sill.

The book has been compiled by the Friends of Dartmouth Park which works to preserve the spot.

As well as Mrs Finney's stories, the book contains stories and art work contributed by West Bromwich school children and information on trees, birds and insects submitted by Steven Hodgkinson, from Black Country Living Landscape.

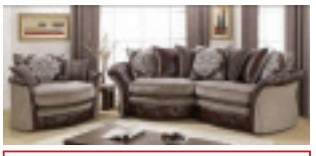
Anyone who wants a copy of the book should send a cheque for £3 Friends of Dartmouth Park, c/o New Street Lodge, Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich, B71 4AS.

1/2 PRICE SUITES & BEDS

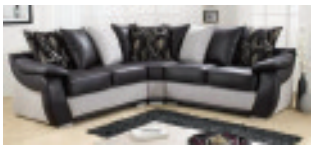
OPENING TIMES: Monday - Saturday 10am - 6pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm

SALE NOW ON

NEXT TO MATALAN



Cosy Corner Unit



Fabric & Leather Corner Units always in stock

LARGE SWIVEL CHAIR Various Colours £299

Last few left at this price

Faux Leather Beds from £99 (mattress not included)

GLASS AND WOOD TABLE & CHAIRS ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Fabric & Leather Recliners always in stock

Leather & Fabric Sets from £399

Large Range of Bedroom Furniture Available

HUGE SELECTION OF MATTRESSES IN STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

From only £39

2 Draw Medium/Firm Divan £199

3ft Slide Store £99

End Draw Medium/Firm Divan £179

Metal Beds from Single £39 Double £79 (mattress not included)

1/2 PRICE SUITES & BEDS

Portway Road, Oldbury
West Midlands B69 2BZ

Tel: 0121 544 5155

Runner takes on a marathon a day and cycle ride for 10 days

Blind Dave faces a Top2Toe challenge

MARATHON man 'Blind Dave' Heeley has revealed the route for his latest fundraising challenge, which will see him travel the length of the UK by foot and tandem in just 10 days.

The 52-year-old father-of-three from West Bromwich will run and cycle from John O'Groats to Land's End in a challenge known as "Blind Dave's Top2Toe Epic Fundraiser", in a bid to raise £100,000.

Following a change of plan, he has announced the route for the challenge, which will see him travel through West Bromwich.

Each day he will run a full marathon, before getting on a tandem to cycle the rest of the distance.

The longest leg will be on the first day, which will see him travel from John O'Groats to Drumnadrochit – a distance of 132 miles.

Land's End

From there he will travel to Loch Lomond and on to Moffat, both in Scotland.

He will then go on to Lancaster and Stoke, before travelling through West Bromwich into Birmingham. From there he will travel via Weston-super-Mare, Oakhampton and Truro before arriving at Land's End on the tip of the toe of the 'Cornish boot'.

"I have spoken to some people that have done it before and they said the first few days are the hardest," said determined Dave.

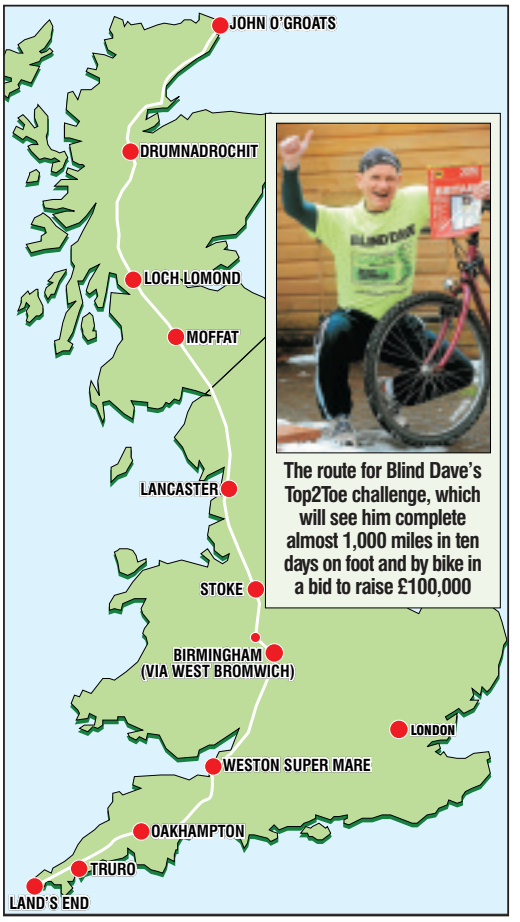
" After that I should get used to it. Most people travel down the country from Lancaster towards Shrewsbury which is the fastest way but it was really important to me to go through West Bromwich, so we changed the route."

Dave will be joined on his challenge by fellow runners Karl Moore and Dave Long of West Bromwich Harriers and cycling partner Mike Hopkins.

The runner, who famously ran seven marathons on seven continents in seven days in 2008, is raising the money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

He will leave John O'Groats on August 10.

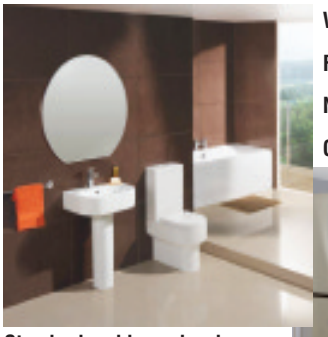
To support Dave in his latest challenge go to www.blinddaveheeley. co.uk/top2toe



The route for Blind Dave's Top2Toe challenge, which will see him complete almost 1,000 miles in ten days on foot and by bike in a bid to raise £100,000

This map shows the route 'Blind Dave' will take for his Top2Toe fundraiser

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS
SALE NOW ON!



Well established family business
Friendly, professional service
No pushy salesmen
Genuine advice to help you

Standard and bespoke sizes
Modern and traditional designs
Free design/home visits
A name you can trust

2 minutes from Asda, Great Bridge, Unit 7, Imex Auto Centre, Dudley Port, Tipton DY4 7RQ
Visit us at vernonwagner.com

0121 520 4666

VernonWagner

Teknaf Cuisine

Indian and Bangladeshi Restaurant
Licensed and Air Conditioned

Special Offer
20% Discount on takeaways (collection only on orders over £12)

Special Offer
10% Discount on takeaways (delivery only on orders over £12)

Special Meal Deal
Available on Sunday and Monday
4 Course Meal for £8.95

Choice of ● Any starter* ● Any Main Course**
● Any Rice or Bread ● Coffee
*King Prawn, Fish or Duck Starter is £1 extra
**King Prawn, Fish or Duck Main Course is £2 extra

Outside Catering Service available large and small parties catered for - all occasions

The restaurant is available to hire for private functions telephone for further details

Tel: 0121 420 4499

622 Bearwood Road, Bearwood, B66 4BW
Fax: 0121-420 3987 www.teknaf.co.uk
Open 7 days a week from 5.30 pm

WINTER SALE WINTER SALE

THIS SATURDAY IS DOUBLE DISCOUNT DAY

NO VAT INCREASES ON EXISTING STOCK

HORNBY MODEL TRAIN
BACHMANN '00' LOCOS
DISCONTINUED MODELS
THIS SATURDAY
NEARLY 40% OF LIST PRICE
(1 PER CUSTOMER)
* DIGITAL DEMOS EVERY SATURDAY
Visit our web site
www.aoakes.co.uk

Mens up to 16
Ladies up to 9
Slippers
TAKE £2 OFF SATURDAY

Bigger Mens
Fleeces
2XL to 5XL
£8.99
THIS SATURDAY

SCALEXTRIC MODEL MOTOR RACING CARS
Cars Selected Models
DOUBLE DISCOUNT NEARLY 40% OF LIST PRICE
THIS SATURDAY

MENS CAR COATS 2XL to 6XL
THIS SATURDAY - SOME STYLES
£20 OFF USUAL PRICE · NOW £21.99 - USUALLY £41.99

LADIES DRESSING GOWNS
UP TO 2XL
WARM NIGHTIES
UP TO 28/30
ALL DOUBLE DISCOUNT
THIS SATURDAY

TOWELS
HAND £1.99
ORIGINAL PRICE £3.50
BATH £3.99
ORIGINAL PRICE £5.99
BATH MATS £2.49
ORIGINAL PRICE £3.50

MENS 2XL to 5XL
BODY WARMERS
(IDEAL FOR FISHING)
SHOWER PROOF
£18.99
USUALLY £28.99
FLEECE £29.99
USUALLY £39.99

A.OAKES OF VICARAGE ROAD FAMILY STORE
174/180 VICARAGE ROAD, OLDBURY B68 8JB
0121 552 1684
Store Hours Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 5.30pm, Wednesday 9.00am to 12.30pm

thechronicle

Nuisance brothers get ban from estate

TWO brothers have been banned from a Sabdwell estate where they frightened neighbours for two years.

Michael and Carl Cockbill, aged 39 and 38, were heard shouting foul and abusive language and fighting in a West Bromwich street.

Walsall County Court heard the brothers behaved so noisily in their parents' home in Essex Avenue, that residents said they could even hear the pair shouting while in their own homes.

There were also reports of the men fighting in the street and swearing at neighbours.

The pair were given injunction orders lasting two years and both were also ordered to pay £717 in court costs. Michael Cockbill, of Bromford Lane, West Bromwich, and Carl Cockbill, who was living in Essex Avenue, did not attend the hearing.

Councillor Derek Rowley, Sandwell's neighbourhoods chief, said: "Many of the residents are elderly and have been suffering for some time and were scared and intimidated. They also reported not having their grandchildren to visit or enjoying their gardens in the summer, due to the problems.

Harassing

"This is a good result for the council's anti-social behaviour team and police, with the court's decision giving residents much-needed respite from these brothers.

"I would also praise the local neighbourhood watch group for their support and those residents who gave evidence in court."

The order bans the brothers from entering an area bordered by Heath Lane, Vicarage Road, Church Lane, Sussex Avenue and Kesteven Road. Both were banned from causing a nuisance in the Essex Avenue neighbourhood and assaulting or harassing victims with their anti-social behaviour.

If they breach the injunction order, the brothers will face up to two years in prison and a possible fine for being in contempt of court.

Resident Denise Hesson said: "This is a huge relief to the community. The atmosphere here was very tense before and now we feel we can walk up and down the street without worrying about being hassled."

Another resident, who did not wish to be named, added: "We had suffered their loutish behaviour for far too many years, so this result was very good and welcomed."

Michael Cockbill

Carl Cockbill

First look at school project spared axe

THIS is the first image of a £23 million Tipton school building project that is going ahead despite the Government cuts.

Work at Alexandra High School, on Alexandra Road, will be split into two phases, the first of which will include building a new three-storey science facility on the site of an existing car park.

A new reception area and business centre will greet visitors on completion, which is due by January next year.

Alternative

The school's historic old block, which dates back to 1926, will be revamped under the second stage of works to be finished by January 2013.

Batmans Hill Pupil Referral Unit will also be relocated to the new site, to occupy the ground floor of the current science block while the community block in the middle of the school will be cleared to pave the way for a new car park.

Deputy headteacher Dave Russell said: "For us it's providing an up-to-date 21st century learning environment for our students to flourish.

"I think it's a project that will further enhance the children's pride in their school."

The costs include £2.5m spent providing pupils with an individual netbook-sized computer to connect to an internal learning environment and new nursery provision.

Contractors Interserve have already begun on site, setting up an alternative car park at the back of school while works commence.

Years 7 and 8 have been relocated to the old Summerhill Primary School building on Central Avenue during construction and art classrooms are being refitted to host science lessons while the new facility is built.

The new three-storey building will house the sixth form as well as maths, ICT, health studies, travel and tourism and technology.

An artist's impression of how Alexandra High School will look

Mark Smith 22
Digital Aerials
SANDWELL
£20 OFF
with this advert
One voucher per installation on a new aerial system
DIGITAL AND FREEVIEW AERIALS
REPAIRS ● TUNING ● MULTIROOMS
Established Over 25 Years
OAP Discount
Free Quotations
Freeview freesat
A Local Business You Can Trust
OPEN 7 DAYS
0121 550 7088

Middleton Dummer SOLICITOR
Have you been injured in an accident?
Not your fault
Keep 100% of your compensation - no deductions
Win or lose you pay nothing
Your claim will be handled by friendly specialist solicitors who are local to you
Free home visits
0121 544 4788
Please contact
Rob, Adam or Angela
at High Tree's House, 1-9 Pool Lane, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands B69 4Q

Tipton Dental Practice
Been looking for a new NHS dentist?
Look no further Tipton Dental Practice is the option for you.
Our easy to access clinic and friendly approach will be ideal for all ranging from nervous patients to child patients attending for the first time.
We can book in a free consultation for any cosmetic treatment you are interested in discussing with the dentist.
Early morning, late evening appointments may be available on request.
Call us: 0121 520 1881
Opening hours:
Mon to Wed 9.00am - 6.00pm
Fri 9.00am - 3.30pm
2 Unity Walk, Owen Street
Tipton, West Midlands DY4 8QL
NHS emergency number: 0845 4647

Sandwell NHS Primary Care Trust
"United we quit smoking"
For help across Sandwell
Call 0800 011 4656
Text READY to 80800
Find us on Facebook
Sandwell Quitters United: Smokefree
www.sandwell.nhs.uk/quit
SMOKEFREE

M & H FIREPLACES
RETAILER OF THE YEAR 2002-2003
Valor
MANY DEALS TO BE HAD ON COMPLETE PACKAGES
OPEN 5 DAYS. CLOSED WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY
Visit our showroom at:
Forge Lane, Cradley Heath, Halesowen, B64 5AL
(Opposite Cradley Bus and Train Station)
Telephone: 01384 345400

New Year New Smile
Call us today For a FREE Consultation
20 years of experience
01384 348594
The Dental Clinic, 5 North Street, Dudley
Denture Clinic
www.denture-clinic.co.uk
Steven Burchell C.D.T.(Dip) R.C.S. (Denturist)

Children are upset after yobs wreck play house

VANDALS have attacked and turned over a play house at a Wednesbury school, pulling seats from their concrete bases and causing £300 worth of damage.

It is the latest in a string of attacks by wreckers at Holyhead Primary School in Holyhead Road, Wednesbury, which have left children "distraught", said headteacher Sandra Rex.

Yobs tipped over the wooden play house in the nursery playground and damaged a slide.

It is believed they struck sometime between 6pm on January 11 and 7am January 13.

"You can imagine how distraught the children are," Mrs Rex said on Monday.

Problems

"The vandals have come here before and ripped the windows out of the Wendy house, and now they have come back and tipped it over completely.

"There's been a string of problems and now we need some help to track these people down and stop the vandals."

West Midlands Police are investigating the incident.

Headteacher Sandra Rex with front, left to right, Naeem Mohammed, Libbie Cadman and Faris Ali, and back, left to right, Kian Wilson and Charley Eagles

Housing office is on move

A HOUSING office in Sandwell that advertises council properties available to rent is set to close in a bid to save cash.

Wednesbury Property Shop will be consolidated within an existing office.

It is hoped to save Sandwell Homes £22,250 a year in rent.

The current base at a Walsall Street office is clsoing and reopening at Wednesbury Housing Service Centre on High Bullen.

Sandwell Homes manages the borough council's 29,000 council homes.

Councillor Simon Hackett, Sandwell housing chief, said the move will create a one-stop housing service for customers in Wed-nesbury and Tipton, as well as creating efficiency savings through reduced rental costs.

He said: "All of the services currently provided within the Wednesbury Property Shop will be delivered from the Wednesbury Housing Service Centre. A front line service will be available each week day."

Arson attack

A LAND Rover was set alight in an arson attack in Great Barr.

The Freelander was parked in Ray Hall Lane last Wednesday when it was targeted. A fire crew from West Bromwich was called to the cul-de-sac to tackle the blaze.

Watch Commander Phil Richards said: "The car was so badly burnt out we couldn't even say what colour it was."

Your new Morrisons Handsworth

OPENS 9am MONDAY 31st JANUARY

Our skilled fishmongers prepare fresh fish that's never been frozen...

You can look forward to loads of fresh choice and 100s of offers each week at your new Morrisons Handsworth. When you visit Market Street you'll see our experts preparing fresh food in store every day. Look out for your Fishmonger at the fish counter - there to advise on the best fish for you at the right price. One visit and you'll be hooked!

...at a tasty price

WINNER EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

You'll find your new Morrisons at: Holyhead Road, Handsworth B21 0AP

MORRISONS Eat fresh. Pay less

w/c 17/01/11

INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES

RADIATING WARMTH..

Showroom:
404-406 Bearwood Road, Smethwick B66 4EX
Tel: 0121-429 3186

VISA MasterCard

Normal opening Monday-Saturday 10.00 am-6.00 pm

INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES
BEARWOOD RD
LONDIS SUPERMARKET
WATERLOO RD
A-Z REF 72 A3

Charlotte Wood, left, and the car her father painted blue and white for the final game of the season

Irvin Morris, right, and his mother and father on their tandem with sidecar

Baggies' fans tell their tales

Jemery Barnes and fellow Australian Albion supporters

A FAMILY car painted blue and white, a couple who travelled to matches on a tandem, and a supporters' club set up in Australia . . .

These are just some of the precious memories disclosed by West Bromwich Albion fans in a new Baggies book.

Among those to tell their stories is Charlotte Wood, whose father painted their family car – a silver Austin Maestro – in blue and white stripes for the drive to the final game of the 2001/2002 season.

"The trip to The Hawthorns in it was brilliant," she said. "What a beautiful day with everyone honking their horns and waving at us.

"Then, to cap it all, mum rang during the first half to say Radio 5 Live had mentioned our West Brom wagon in their commentary." Albion went on to win the match, but Charlotte's father resisted the urge to drive through Wolverhampton on the way home.

From tandems to a dead Throstle

Also to feature is Jeremy Barnes, who set up an Albion Supporters Club when he moved to Sydney, Australia, so he could follow his beloved team.

"We quickly went from strength to strength," said Mr Barnes. "Sponsoring players – Dave Gilbert was one of the first – and getting T-shirts and car stickers made, all proudly showing a kangaroo clutching the Albion emblem."

Mr Barnes is now living back in England and has a Baggies season ticket. But the club is still going strong and has about 50 members.

Irvin Morris's mother and father (Irvin's dad was secretary of West Bromwich Clarion Cycling Club) used to ride to matches together on a tandem. A side car was added when Mr Morris's sister was born in 1933 so they could continue to attend.

Mr Morris said: "I can clearly remember going to a home game against the Wolves with my aunt and my dad and standing next to us was a Wolves supporter in all his regalia, carrying a stick upon which he'd nailed a dead throstle! I looked on in horror as he started waving the dead bird about as the players came out and shouted: 'This is what we are going to do to you today!'

"My aunt, who was rather a large lady, said 'how can you be so cruel?

"She then hit him over the head with her umbrella. The Wolves fan quickly moved away and he and his stick were never to be seen again!"

Albion 'Til I Die 2: More Voices of West Bromwich Albion Supporters is the brainchild of the Albion Foundation, in partnership with the National Literacy Trust and Legends Publishing. It costs £10. For more information visit legendspublishing.net

Foundation education and learning managerAllison Tripney said: "It's amazing the stories you hear about life as an Albion fan, stories that make you laugh, make you think and some you can even shed a tear to."

SMEG • SAMSUNG • HOTPOINT • DYSON • BEKO • INDESIT • WHIRLPOOL

CDA • RANGEMASTER • LEC • LEISURE • HOOVER • CANDY

Opening Hours
Mon - Sat
9.30am - 6pm
Sunday
10am - 4pm

BORSHCH
CLEARANCE CENTRE

All Major Credit Crads Accepted

Peartree Lane, Dudley, DY2 0QU
Tel: 01384 571879
Also at Upper Trinity Street, Bordesley, Birmingham B9 4EG TEL: 0121 773 6361
Pictures for Guidance Only

Dudley Store
PEDMORE RD.

Huge Savings For 2011
PRICES TO SUIT EVERY HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE
NO VAT INCREASE ON LARGE SELECTION OF PRODUCTS

NOW IN STOCK CANDY / HOOVER APPLIANCES AND DYSON INDEPENDANT MODEL VACUUMS
New and Boxed on Special Offer

Free Standing Gas/Electric Cookers FROM £149.99
Tumble Dryers FROM £99.99
Washing Machines FROM £149.99
Fridge Freezers FROM £149.99
Fridge and Freezers FROM £99.99
Chest Freezers FROM £69.99

2 years' parts and labour guarantee
Many different models in stock
New Year Special
Limited Stock with 2 years parts and labour Guarantee

Eye Level Gas Cookers FROM £249.99
Built Under Integrated Larder Fridge New and Boxed Only £209.99 Limited Stock
Samsung Washing Machine Brand New Boxed LIMITED STOCK FROM £199.99
Washer Dryers FROM £299.99
Hoover 60cm Dishwasher New and boxed Was £259.99 Now only £199.99 Whilst stocks last
Single Built in Ovens FROM £149.99
Dishwashers FROM £149.99

2 years' parts and labour guarantee
SAMSUNG with £3,000 WORTH MORE & BOXED £899.99 Week of Show
2 years' parts and labour guarantee
2 years' parts and labour guarantee
2 years' parts and labour guarantee
PACKAGE DEAL
Full Manufacturers Guarantee
Bake Washing Machine 9 kgs Black For only £278.99 New and boxed

Samsung Double Door New and Boxed Limited Stock Black For only £629.99
Range cookers new and boxed FROM £499.99 Gas range cookers with FSD Limited stock
Samsung Fridge Freezer New and Boxed Limited Period Only From only £269.99
Samsung Electric Oven and Ceramic Hob New & boxed. Limited stock Only £399.99
SPECIAL OFFER BEKO Black 8kg WASHING MACHINE New & Boxed Limited Stock Only £299.99
Built In Double Ovens FROM £299.99

VACUUM CLEANERS AND MICROWAVES FROM £49.99
OVEN AND HOB SETS AVAILABLE AT PACKAGE PRICES

NEW STOCK EVERY DAY

Travel Insurance

- No upper age limit
- Cover for medical conditions wherever possible*

For a no-obligation quote, visit us at:

Age Concern Sandwell
15-17 Bull Street
West Bromwich, B70 6EU
Tel: 0121 500 1860
(open 10am to 2pm Mon to Fri except Wed 10am to 1pm)

or call Ageas' UK based call centre on 0845 685 1058 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/travelinsurance

AGE Concern

age UK

Travel Insurance is provided by Ageas Insurance Limited.

*Subject to medical screening and acceptance by the underwriters. Age UK is a registered trademark of Age UK (Charity no 1128267). The use of the name and logo Age UK is done so under a licence agreement between Age UK and Age UK Enterprises Limited, its commercial services arm. Net profits are donated to Age UK. Promoter: Age UK Enterprises Limited, Astral House, 1268 London Road, London SW16 4ER. ID9604 10/10. T2046V1OCT10 CS031584_10

BOWJANGLES
BEST BUYERS OF...

Prices paid on 18/01/11

RING FOR DAILY PRICES
Prices correct at the time of printing and are subject to change daily

GOLD

OPEN
MON-SAT 10.00 - 5.00PM

9ct.....£10.00 per gram 22ct.....£24.44 per gram
14ct.....£15.55 per gram 24ct.....£26.66 per gram
18ct.....£20.00 per gram Full Sovereign.....£196
Full Kruggerand £830

SILVER

37p/gram
42p/gram (minimum) for charm bracelets and Alberts chains
Any silver articles hallmarked are priced per piece

PLATINUM

Fine Platinum £28.00/gram
Thermo Coupling Wire wanted
Platinum Crucibles taken

WATCHES

All Rolex Watches Wanted
All Omega Watches Wanted
All Pocket Watches Wanted

EURO'S

GOOD PRICES PAID FOR EURO NOTES AND EURO COINS

FOR ANY INFORMATION TO DO WITH GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, WATCHES AND ANTIQUES CALL FOR FREE ADVICE. HIGHEST PRICES ALWAYS

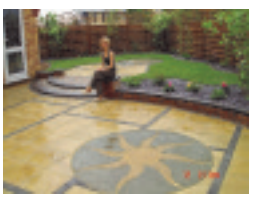
ANTIQUE ARTICLES WANTED ALSO...

NOW OPEN IN ERDINGTON
0121 377 8722
6 WAYS ISLAND, 3 SUTTON NEW ROAD, B23 6TJ

WEDNESBURY
0121 556 6868
17 MARKET PLACE, WS10 7AY (WEDNESBURY J9, M6)
www.bowjanglesmidlands.co.uk

Public Notice Don't Miss Out!

SPECIAL RATES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



Lines Open 8.00am - 9.30pm 7 Days

LOCAL AREA NUMBERS

Sandwell	0121 607 8164
Cannock	01922 438166
Aldridge	01922 438166
Great Barr	0121 607 8164
Sutton Coldfield	0121 607 8164
West Bromwich	0121 535 7445
Walsall	01922 438166
Tipton	0121 535 7445

Driveways
Gardens
Patios

SALE

Subject to our terms & conditions

up to **40%** OFF

THIS GREAT OFFER IS AVAILABLE ON ALL ENQUIRIES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Is your driveway or garden getting you down, a mess?

We can sort it out for you! We are offering a great price for a super job, with a peace of mind 10 year Guarantee

www.uplco.com

CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE
0800 0189 725

UPL are a local established family business with a proven track record who take pride in their work.

HQ. 22 High Street

BLACK COUN
UNIVERSITY T

New School
Opening in Wal
September 20

for year 10 and 6th form ent
from across The Black Countr
surrounding area

- A new type of school for 14 - 19 year olds
- Developing the next generation of engineers and designers
- Combining academic and technical skills
- Enhancing opportunities to progress to university or work
- Inspirational learning aided by:
  - Expert teachers
  - Industry standard facilities
  - Latest technologies
  - Real work with employers

Find out more about t
Country University Techn
College (UTC) by attend
roadshow event:

- **25th January 2011,**
  Tipton Sports Academ
  Club, Wednesbury Oa
  Tipton, DY4 0BS

For more information ab
Black Country UTC plea
www.blackcountryutc.

Sponsored by: Walsall College

Commercial Feature

Specialist school for opportunities

ENGINEERING YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS!

A new specialist science and engineering school is set to open in Walsall that will give your child the very best opportunities in gaining the skills to become the next James Dyson or Steve Jobs.

Ministers from the Department of Education have awarded the scheme with a capital allocation of £9.5m, which will open to students on the site of Sneyd Community School in September 2011, creating the next generation of scientists and engineers.

BLACK COUNTRY UTC

The Black Country UTC, which will serve the Black Country and surrounding area, will be one of the first of its kind across the country, offering year 10 and year 12 sixth form pupils the opportunity to focus on science and engineering subjects in a specialist environment.

Science and engineering influences every aspect of modern life, with scientists and engineers using their specialist knowledge to make things work and solve problems. Closely linked with technology, many science and engineering roles rely on the latest technological advances in a fast-paced and growing industry.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Black Country UTC will focus on becoming a centre of excellence for new engineering, with 480 pupils from across the Black Country and South Staffordshire. During their studies, pupils will have the opportunity to gain specialist training in engineering and science, including subject areas such as: processing engineering, product design and environmental sustainability.

Pupils attending the UTC should be passionate and committed about developing the skills required for a career in engineering. Integrated into their technical studies will be GCSEs in English, maths, science and ICT, along with employability and enterprise skills. Work related learning and gaining the practical skills required for employment will also form a central part of the learning programmes on offer.

UTILISING ADVANCING TECHNOLOGIES

The curriculum will be actively shaped by employers and industry stakeholders, ensuring the knowledge and skills pupils gain fully meet the demands of industry.

It is proposed the new facility will support the Black Country regeneration agenda by addressing the need of more relevant and current educational and training opportunities for young people in engineering and manufacturing.

The new facility will utilise the advancing technologies within new engineering and will adopt the Sponsors' ethos of preparing students to be 'skilled, professional and enterprising'.

The UTC will draw upon the expertise and industry links of Walsall College and University of Wolverhampton, whilst giving pupils clear progressive routes to further education, university and high level apprenticeships.

Amarjit Basi, Principal and Chief Executive of Walsall College commented: "This is an extremely exciting opportunity for young people in the Black Country and surrounding area.

"The Black Country UTC will provide pupils with an interest in engineering and science to learn and succeed within an inspirational institution, supported by expert staff, utilising the latest technology that industry has to offer.

BIRTHPLACE OF ENGINEERING

"The Black Country is the birthplace of engineering. Pupils at the UTC will be involved in areas such as product design for green technologies, such as water harvesting, solar power, climate control and wind generators. Both Sponsors are committed to working in partnership with other schools and colleges, so that their students and staff may also benefit from what will be a regional centre of excellence."

Furthermore the UTC has partnered with the Royal Institute of Mechanical Engineers, in order to provide professional accreditation to students.

Amarjit added: "All the students enrolling with our UTC will be registered as Young Engineers, a programme which maps to the IMechE professional accreditation system. As a consequence our students will graduate at the age of 18 or 19 with letters after their name.

"This is a really exciting step towards finally achieving parity between vocational disciplines and academic education".

Professor Caroline Gipps, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton said: 'We are proud to be co-sponsors of this exciting new development within the Black Country. Science and Engineering education remains a priority for the University and this development will ensure that the Black Country UTC produces some of the brightest scientists and engineers in the UK".

ROADSHOWS

A series of roadshows are taking place to inform parents and potential pupils about the forthcoming University Technical College (UTC), set to open in Walsall in September 2011.

The roadshows have been organised to give parents and potential pupils more information about what the UTC will offer and give them the chance to register their interest for a place.

Black Country UTC Roadshows are taking place across the Black Country, with the next one taking place on Tuesday 25th January at Tipton Sports Academy Social Club, 6.30pm.

Alicia
Grand 4 seater sofa including all accent cushions

NORMAL PRICE £1099

SALE PRICE £699

Cousins

wintersale

OFFER NOW IN ITS FINAL WEEK

Solid Oak Extending table & 4 chairs
NORMAL PRICE £1299
SALE PRICE £599

Silentnight kingsize drawer divan
NORMAL PRICE £749
SALE PRICE £499

PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR
NO DEPOSIT
then take INTEREST FREE CREDIT

With **low sale prices** and many **savings of 50% or more** you really must visit Cousins Winter Sale now.

Cousins boast three of the **largest furniture stores in the UK.** Whatever your taste, contemporary or classical, they have inspirational room settings and an unbeatable massive choice.

Hurry Cousins' fantastic Sale Offer, is now in its final week, pay nothing for a year, no deposit then take interest free credit, **doors close 5pm Sunday**.

FAMOUS BRAND NAMES THROUGHOUT THE STORE

OPEN MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9.30am - 6pm
SATURDAY 9.30am - 5.30pm, SUNDAY 11am - 5pm,
LATE NIGHTS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY UNTIL 8pm

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

BIRMINGHAM - Warwick Road, Tyseley B11 2EW. Tel: 0121 765 3300
DUDLEY - Hall Street DY2 8NW. Tel: 01384 451500
MANCHESTER - End Of M602, A57 Regent Rd, Salford M5 4EA. Tel: 0161 875 4070

Deferred/Interest Free Credit available on all total orders over £200. Subject to status. Written details on request. Offer not available on clearance items or in store concessions. All items subject to availability. Some items are one per household and only available in the colours shown in this advert.

0% APR

Biddle&Webb
auctioneers and valuers

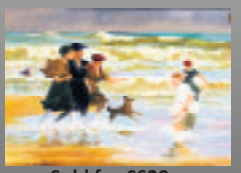
Expertise in all aspects of
art, antiques, 20th century, silver and jewellery, coins and medals, toys, comics, football memorabilia etc...

Sold for £6400

Sold for £2300

Sold for £880

Sold for £320


Sold for £620

Sold for £6200

We also offer a FREE VALUATION SERVICE *every* Thursday morning at our Birmingham salerooms.

For information on any of our services go to our website on www.biddleandwebb.co.uk or contact:

Biddle&Webb auctioneers and valuers
Icknield Square, Ladywood Middleway, Birmingham B16 0PP Tel: 0121 455 8042
email: info@biddleandwebb.com

thechronicle

Ex-pub boss faces £30,500 court bill

Belal Hussain: breached health and safety rules

THE former landlord of a West Bromwich pub that once sold the country's cheapest pint faces a bill of more than £30,000 over health and safety breaches.

Belal Hussain was fined £27,000 for piling up food and waste in a back yard and car park of The Marksman and failing to check the cellar barrel lift for safety. The 23-year-old, of Jesson Street, West Bromwich, who is the former food business operator at The Marksman, admitted the charges when he appeared at Warley Magistrates Court.

The court heard environmental health officers spotted the breaches during an inspection at the Carters Green pub – once famed for selling 45p pints – in December 2008.

Breaches included a lack of adequate provision for the storage and disposal of food waste, failing to ensure the cellar hoist had been thoroughly examined by a competent person and failing to provide documentation in relation to the transfer of waste.

No improvements had been made by January 2009 so the council served legal notices a month later, requiring the proper storage and disposal of food waste and safety checks on the barrel lift to the cellar.

However, during subsequent visits officers found these had not been complied with.

Notice

Hussain was fined £4,500 for failing to comply with a food hygiene improvement notice, £4,500 for failing to provide documents to demonstrate legal waste collection, and £18,000 for failing to comply with a health and safety improvement notice relating to a safety certificate for a piece of lifting equipment in the cellar.

Court costs of £3,500 took his total bill to £30,500.

Councillor Derek Rowley, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for safer neighbourhoods, said: "This sentence sends out a strong message that the courts take hygiene and health and safety laws very seriously and people who flout them will pay the price.

"Public protection is our key priority. We are willing to work closely with food operators but they must play their part and co-operate with us to ensure they meet the law."

The Marksman is now under new ownership.

A new lease of life for an empty shop

AN empty West Bromwich shop will be given a new lease of life selling greenhouse equipment.

Sandwell planning chiefs granted permission for the former Cicada Sports store in Pikehelve Street to sell hydroponics including indoor gardening equipment, and renewable energy equipment such as solar panels. The move will create jobs for two full-time workers. The store will be open from 9am-9pm Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm on Saturday and from 10am-2pm on Sundays and bank holidays.

Forums for bringing up neighbourhood issues

GREAT Bridge and Tipton Green residents can raise any crime, anti-social behaviour or environmental concerns at a forum meeting next week.

Sandwell Council's communities unit organises forum meetings in all Sandwell neighbourhoods.

Forums are a chance for people to bring concerns about their area to the attention of the council's neighbourhood managers, police and other partner organisations, so that action can then be taken to tackle problems.

The meetings will take place at 6.30pm on January 25 at Great Bridge Primary School in Mount Street; on February 8 at St John's Church, Upper Church Lane; on March 7 at St Paul's Community Centre, Brick Kiln Street, Tipton.

Contact

For more information, contact neighbourhood manager Raj Shoker on 0121 569 3133, email rajvinder_shoker@sandwell.gov.uk.

And they can also report problems to Sandwell's anti-social behaviour helpline by phoning 0845 359 7500, texting SANDWELL ASB plus the message to 60003 or emailing contact@sandwell.gov.uk.

Four to face murder trial

FOUR men will stand trial in August for the murder of a plasterer from Tipton shot in Bilston.

Lee Douglas, aged 31, was shot at a house on the corner of Arthur Road and Wellington Road at 12.30am on November 11.

Four Leicester men in their 20s are charged with murdering Mr Douglas, of Tudor Court, Tipton.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court last week Judge John Warner said the trial would be on August 30 at Birmingham Crown Court.

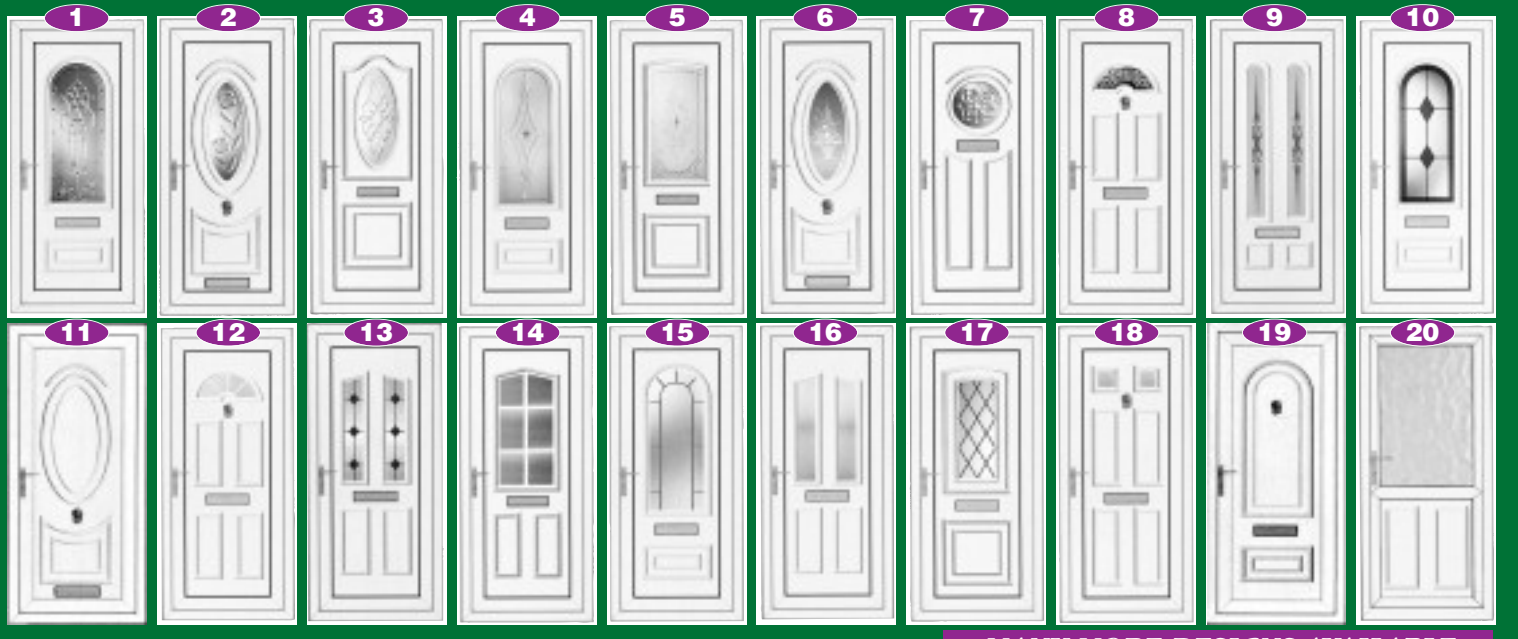
Unglazed/Glazed Upvc Doors from £349 Fully Fitted

C&T DOORS & WINDOWS LTD
JANUARY SALE NOW ON
. . . ALL AREAS COVERED . . . ALL AREAS COVERED . . .

Unglazed/Glazed Upvc Doors from £349 Fully Fitted

Fitted within 2 weeks. For a service you can trust call

NEW OFFER FRENCH/PATIO DOORS FULLY FITTED FROM £649



• New improved 10 point Claw Lock • Steel reinforced

MANY MORE DESIGNS AVAILABLE
www.candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk

Tel: 07759 536818 or 01902 842706

Schools building project creates apprentice jobs

A MULTI-MILLION pound scheme to modernise schools in Sandwell has created 23 apprenticeships.

They have been recruited to work for construction giant Interserve and sub contractors working on the borough's Building Schools for the Future projects.

The scheme will see a number of Sandwell's secondary schools rebuilt or revamped.

It was initially due to create 145 apprenticeships, however, most of these positions are now on hold after nine of Sandwell's projects were axed by the Government.

The apprenticeships last for two years and lead to an NVQ level two. Twelve apprentices will work at Smethwick Learning Campus and 11 will work at Rowley Learning Campus. Most of the vacancies have been filled except for two at Smethwick Learning Campus which are now being recruited.

College

Liz Morley, spokeswoman for Interserve, said: "The apprentices will be working across the Sandwell area on the two Building Schools for the Future projects ongoing at present, as well as the new Sandwell College project."

It is not yet known how many apprentices will be recruited for a further three schools – Oldbury Campus, and Wednesbury Campus, and Tipton's new Alexandra High School, which were signed off for building projects just before Christmas.

Ban on alcohol sales

A WINE shop in West Bromwich that sold alcohol to children twice has lost its licence for three months.

The licence at Hill Top Wines was suspended at a licensing panel hearing prompted by complaints from residents.

Licence holder Amardeep Bali was removed as the designated premises supervisor for the shop, at which alcohol was sold to youngsters on January 12, 2006, and on January 19 last year.

Its licence was last reviewed in September and conditions placed on the current licence. But undercover trading standards officers found breaches of those conditions on three different occasions.

The panel heard undercover officers visited on February 3, March 4 and August 12 last year. The first time they found no staff records and CCTV images not being recorded or kept. The shop did not have its own branded bags, another condition of its licence. They found no improvements the second time they visited.

On the third, notices on the door asking customers not to be offended if asked for identification were missing as were posters stating selling alcohol to under-18s was illegal. CCTV images were not being recorded.

The decision can be appealed at magistrates court.

Council workers Colin Rippard and Dave Lawley with councillor Elaine Costigan

Overgrown hedges cut and rubbish is removed

AN eyesore traffic island in Sandwell, which was strewn with broken signs, overgrown with brambles and covered with rubbish has been cleared.

Sandwell Council officers cleared the Holyhead Road island in Wednesbury, including strimming overgrown hedges, removing brambles and clearing litter from the site.

The works also included clearing around broken chevrons on the island.

Ward councillor Elaine Costigan said the work would be welcomed by nearby residents and businesses.

Cllr Costigan said: "The area has been crying out for help for months.

"The Holyhead Road island is the main island coming from Wolverhampton to Wednesbury and it needed tidying up.

Environment

"This will be a boost for the residents nearby, in Bilston Road and for those businesses in Hallens Drive. It's going to be a better environment and be a big improvement for the area."

Cllr Mrs Costigan had been calling for council officers to clear the site for around six months.

She added: "Thanks to the council for considering my thoughts and for asking the officers to come. I believe they are now going to grass the area which will be a vast improvement."

Preparing for the badminton classes are Lorna Deere-Pace and Lisa Rashid

Weekly sessions are £1

PEOPLE are being encouraged to join badminton sessions in Sandwell.

Run by Sandwell Leisure Trust in partnership with Badminton England, the £1 sessions are designed for people with some experience of the sport as well as those who just want to try it. They will be held at 6pm every Tuesday until April 5 at Wood Green High School, Wednesbury.

In Smethwick, they will be on Thursdays from 6pm at Holly Lodge High School. Dates to be confirmed.

They will be every week at Oldbury College, Pound Road, from 6pm and in West Bromwich on Tuesdays from 7pm at the YMCA in Carters Green.

Rowley Regis folk can take up sessions on Wednesdays at Heathfields School in Wrights Lane between 6pm and 7pm from January 26 to April 6. In Tipton they will be held at the RSA Academy in Bilston Road on Mondays between 8 and 9pm.

Walsall's Premier Kitchen Facelift Company

VAT HELD AT 17.5%

(We pay the difference)

Members of Walsall Trader Register (Trading Standards)

Order Before 31st January 2011 And Get FREE Fitting

Choose from 10 styles and col

NO Pushy salesmen
NO Hidden extras
Fully inclusive price
Friendly experience
Fully insured fitters
Established local b

Kitchen Lost It's Sparkle... just change the doors

- SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
- Doors... made to measure
- Additional Units... if required
- Worktops... find your perfect style
- Sinks and Taps... choose your style

Made in Britain

AS FEATURED ON itv 1

AS SEEN ON ITV'S 60 MINUTES

FSB MEMBER

www.dreamdoorsltd.co.uk

10 YEARS

DREAM DOORS®

The UK's Premier Kitchen Facelift company

0845 4084868 Checkatrade

Check us out at www.checkatrade.com

For a FREE brochure or to a no-obligation survey, ca

Tel No: 0121 37

Visit our Showroom

14 Beacon Buildings, Leigh Aldridge, Walsall W

THESE 2 DOORS AT

1 2

£333 EACH FULLY FITTED

Mob 07944 351351

08454 501 501

All areas covered

Whyley Walk, Langley, Oldbury

The Crosswell Inn

BEAT THE CRUNCH!

3 Course Meal
£3.99
12 noon-2 pm Monday to Friday

Carvery available Tuesday and Friday
12 noon-2 pm and all day Sunday

Sunday Carvery with FREE soup

Quiz Night
Sundays featuring Skint or Mint
(Deal or No Deal) and play for £150

Full Belly Buster Sizzles
2 for £10

Many specials of the day
Including Tandoori Chicken, Daily Fresh Fish, Meat Balls, Sweet and Sour and all the usual grills and homemade specials

Bar Meals from £1.99

Don't miss out - book your Mother's Day treat
Limited seats still available

4 BIG SCREENS FOR ALL YOUR SPORTING ACTION

Whyley Walk, Oldbury B69 4SB
Telephone 0121 552 2629
crosswell@btinternet.com

COMPETITION

thechronicle

Win an action-packed half term of sport with Decathlon

DECATHLON
PLAY MORE PAY LESS

WIN

WITH half-term around the corner, we've teamed up with the West Midlands' newest sports store to give one lucky family the chance to win £250 worth of goodies that will help get the kids outside and make the school break a mountain of fun.

Decathlon at the Gallagher Retail Park in Wednesbury opened in November, offering over 170,000 items across 70 different sports – from cycling to swimming, golf to table tennis and horse riding to fishing.

Decathlon has proved a particularly popular choice for winter sport enthusiasts. Ski and snowboarding equipment has accounted for 30 per cent of sales and ski boots have been the biggest single selling item.

February half term is a popular week for ski-ing for families and school trips alike, and Decathlon is definitely the place to go for anyone looking for clothing and equipment.

"Kitting out a whole family with winter clothing and ski equipment is potentially very costly. Our sales show that parents recognise the value and quality of our products," explained Decathlon manager Anthony Kirkwood.

Knowledge

"Aside from value, families appreciate the knowledge and expertise of our passionate team members and the opportunity to try out our equipment in-store.

"That goes for all of the 70 sports that we cover!"

Visit www.decathlon.co.uk for more information.

To be in with a chance of winning £250 of Decathlon vouchers, simply answer the following question:

In what month did Decathlon in Wednesbury open?

Send your answer to the question below, along with your name, address and telephone number, to us at Decathlon Half Term Competition, Sandwell and Great Barr Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES by Thursday, January 27.

Sports heroes Darren Gough and Austin Healey, who opened the new superstore, show Decathlon customers the breadth of the product range

Relax In Style

Over 200 Recliners and Orthopaedic Chairs always in stock

MADE IN BRITAIN

Family Run Business since 1985

www.ComfortAndRecline.com
Main Showroom:
19 York Road Kings Heath,
Birmingham B14 7SA

Phone Scott or Chris 0121 693 9238 Open: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

Ring ahead for parking arrangements

Free Home Selection and Assessment Service for those who are unable to visit the showroom

CLASSIFIED ADS
TOOLS OF THE TRADE

"The my classified section of the Express & Star has always proven to be a valuable source of customers for our business since we began. We have been advertising with the Express & Star for over 80 years and due to the response that we receive from our contract advertisements, we continually renew at the end of each year.

I would have no hesitation in recommending Classified Contract advertising with the Express & Star to anyone who is looking to promote their business."
Mr Marsh, E Marsh Upholsterers

Promote your business from only £26 per week

myclassified
There's nothing like it for buying and selling.

01902 317878
Express & Star | The Chronicle | www.expressandstar.com

SOFAHOUSE NEW YEAR SALE NOW O

- CALL NOW

BEFORE YOU BUY, COME AND TR

Visit our showroom and compare ou quality and very keen prices

CHLOE

Sofas made on the premise

You will not be disappointed

CHI

3+1+1 **£999**

Rejuvenate your old sofa with new fillings *from* £2

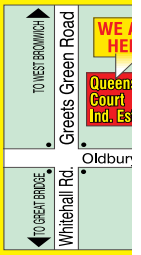
Soft, Medium or Hard
Reflex foam and feather filling

- Support your local Manufacturers
- Watch your Sofa's being made in our workshop
- Made to measure
- Strong quality Frames
- Sprung bases
- High density seat foams
- Re-upholstery

From **£499**

INTRODUCTOR OFFER
Double 4ft 6 Memory Foa Mattress
£139

Sofa House Upholstery
Unit 6 Queens Court
Industrial Estate
Greets Green Road
West Bromwich B70 9EG
Tel: 0121 520 3111



www.sofahouseupholstery.co.uk

BEDS
AVAILA

Our Best Ever JANUARY SALE!

From the midlands No.1 Kitchen Cupboard Door Specialist.

NOW Save upto 60%

Why spend thousands on a new kitchen when a kitchen makeover using made to measure Doors looks just as effective at a fraction of the cost and without all the hassle!

FREE Cookerhood
FREE Worktops
FREE Sink & Taps

PLUS:
Spend over £500 and we'll also give you Free worktops or appliances to compliment your new look kitchen - ask for details

0800 088 7044

FREE No Obligation Home Quotation Service

DUDLEY 01384 660 065 • KIDDERMINSTER 01562 950 998 • SANDWELL 0121 369 0213
STOURBRIDGE 01384 293 654 • WALSALL 01922 500 065 • W'HAMPTON 01902 581 570

- **Doors**
- **Drawers**
- **Appliances**
- **Worktops**

ACT NOW Limited Offer

Doors & More

www.imore.co.uk

Showroom: 8 Wordsley Green Lawnswood Rd Wordsley West Midlands DY8 5PD

thechronicle

Beacon Hotel – watch out for the former landlady

The Whittington – hidden monks

The Horse and Jockey – scene of a suicide

The Talbot – a roaming mistress

Licensed for spirits

A couple of authors have been looking at the grisly past of the Black Country's most haunted pubs – and there are some spooky stories to be told.

The Whittington Inn, on the A449 near Kinver, has several high profile spectres associated with it, according the book Beer and Spirits.

Staff and customers have seen a monk hiding there – perhaps dating back to the Reformation when Catholics hid in fear of their lives at pub. It is also reported that Lady Jane Grey stayed at theere. The ghost of Lady Jane, who was briefly Queen of England in the 16th century, has been spotted many times over the years. Even on the road outside the car park there have been numerous sightings of notorious local highwayman Captain Kitson - so be careful on your way home!

Light-hearted

The Crooked House, Himley, is a famous old pub with tales to tell. Formerly an 18th century farmhouse, it has been visited by the apparition of a young parlour maid. A psychic identified the woman as Polly and she can sometimes be seen standing near the old fireplace.

Many legends in the book by David Taylor and Andrew Homer are of a light-hearted nature. There is the story of Anne Horton, a 'lady of the night' who is said to follow young men home from The Giffard Arms, in Wolverhampton city centre.

But other tales take a more poignant turn. The Talbot Hotel, Stourbridge, dates back to 1685 and this rich history includes an 18th century landlord's mistress who has been spotted roaming the building in search of her dead child.

Pubs in the Black Country are said to have spooky things going on, **ADAM BATE** dips into a new book that reveals some of the most haunted

The Old Still Inn, King Street, Wolverhampton, also has a disturbing history. Built in the early 1750s, the presence of a former licensee who hung himself in the 1900s is still felt in the pub. A second hanging of a young child is said to have occurred years later – and the sobbing can often be heard from the upper floors of the building.

Highgate Brewery Stores, Walsall, is a Victorian pub on a site going back to medieval times and when workmen began renovating the pub in 1998 they were shocked by some of the strange events.

Tools regularly went missing and it was assumed to be a practical joke until one workman was confronted by a disembodied head when alone in what is now the Cellar Bar.

When a pub has been around as long as The Manor House, West Bromwich, it is bound to have a history. This historical gem boasts a 14th century moat and a chapel that may date back to the late 15th century.

But The Manor House is also thought to be home to a variety of apparitions. There is the nervous man who haunts the great hall and even the large black cat that stalks the upper solar bar. Even reconstructed pubs cannot escape ghostly activity. The Bottle and Glass was moved to the Black Country Living Museum in 1979 from its previous location in Brierley Hill Road, Brockmoor, near the Stourbridge Canal at the top of the 16 locks.

It was there that Minnie Holden, who lived at the pub for periods between 1914 and 1928, first experienced unusual activity. But staff at the museum still believe the Bottle and Glass to be haunted and have reported strange, inexplicable noises coming from the pub.

The Horse and Jockey, Wednesbury, is a Victorian pub that was, according to legend, the scene of a tragic suicide.

A man walked into the pub, ordered a double brandy, drank it and promptly shot himself. His ghost – known to staff as Cyril – is thought to be still haunting the premises.

Beady eyes

At the Beacon Hotel, Sedgley, a spooky painting of former landlady Sarah Hughes has been unnerving managers of the Victorian pub for years. The beady eyes of her portrait in the sitting room seem to follow visitors as she keeps a watchful eye over her pub.

Mr Taylor founded Parasearch, a West Midlands group that investigates paranormal phenomena in 1896. Mr Homer is a past vice chairman of the organisation.

They said: "While the stories and accounts in this book are not meant to offer any proof or conclusive evidence of ghosts, they do offer a fresh look at new and more traditional accounts of haunted pubs in the Black Country and the surrounding area."

The book, featuring more than 60 local pubs across nearly 100 pages, is available through Amberley Publishing priced at £12.99.

The Giffard Arms – haunted by a lady of the night

The Crooked House – visited by Polly

MASSIVE SAVINGS

JANUARY SALE NOW ON - UP TO 50% OFF

FREE LOCAL SAME DAY DELIVERY

Electrical Superstore

RANGE COOKERS FROM £499

GAS & ELECTRIC HOBS FROM £49

VACUUM CLEANERS FROM £29

BUILT IN OVENS SINGLES FROM £129 DOUBLES FROM £249

FRIDGE FREEZERS FROM £169 Available in White or Silver

22in LCD TV Combi (DVD, TV and Digital) £199

GAS & ELECTRICAL COOKERS FROM £179

OAKMERE DINING SET £199 Also available with 6 Chairs for just £349

MICROWAVES FROM £29

DRYERS 6kG White and Silver VENTED £139 CONDENSERS FROM £169

DISHWASHERS FROM £169 Available in White or Silver

GAS & ELECTRICAL FIRES FROM £99

LEATHER SETTEES FROM £149

WASHING MACHINE SPECIAL OFFER WAS £199 NOW £179 Also available in Silver

BAUMATIC RANGE COOKER BC190 2SS 90CM RANGE/ALL GAS WAS £699 NOW ONLY £599!!

HOTPOINT WASHER WML940P 9KG WASH LOAD 1400 SPIN WAS £399 NOW £329!!

BECO FRIDGE FREEZER CDA543FW SUPER SAVING/A CLASS/ FROST FREE/6FT HIGH WAS £399 NOW ONLY £299!

JVC 42IN LCD 42DV1BJ FULL HD 1080P.100HZ/USB INPUT WAS £799 NOW ONLY £649!!

HOTPOINT WASHER WML520P 6KG WASH LOAD 1200 SPIN WAS £279 NOW ONLY £249!

INDESIT WASHER IWB5113 5.5KG WASH LOAD/1100 SPIN WAS £269 NOW ONLY £229!

HOTPOINT COOKER HUG61K NEW MODEL/ALL COLOURS AVAILABLE/ DOUBLE OVEN/60 WIDE ONLY £499!!

HOTPOINT COOKER HUG52P NEW MODEL/ALL COLOURS IN STOCK/ DOUBLE OVEN/50 WIDE ONLY £399!!

LEISURE COOKER GR6GVCPS GOURMET CLASSIC/60 WIDE/DOUBLE OVEN ONLY £449!!

BECO WASHER WME8227B 8KG WASHLOAD/1200 SPIN NOW ONLY £299!

SAMSUNG 42in FULL HD 1080P NOW £449

Fittings available on all appliances
Special order required - call us for cheapest quotes
Free recycling on all products

www.westmidlandselectricalsuperstore.com
Email: westmidlandsales@btconnect.com
Telephone 0121 505 6108

West Midlands Electrical

Major credit cards taken

2-4 Upper High Street, Wednesbury WS10 7HF OPEN Mon-Sat 9.00 am-6.30 pm

*pictures for illustration purposes only

RYDALE

CELEBRATING OVER 31 YEARS

WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES, PORCHES, FASCIAS & SOFFIT BOARDS

VISIT ONE OF THE LARGEST SHOWROOMS IN THE UK. SEE OUR FULL PRODUCT RANGE

Quality Assured

FINANCE AVAILABLE

WINDOW, CONSERVATORY, PORCH, FASCIA & SOFFIT NEWS

How has Rydale built up an excellent reputation?

It's simple, customers' satisfaction and quality. The quality of Rydale's product, the quality of all Rydale personnel and the unbeatable service given to the public is second to none. No wonder Rydale has so many satisfied customers, just look at the facts. Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years. Rydale Windows security features make our windows super safe. We have a wide range of products on display at our purpose built 40,000 sq. ft showrooms and factories situated in Long Lane, Halesowen.

Our window and conservatory advisors are available in our showrooms weekdays from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm and Saturday 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. At Rydale we feel that is is very important to see products on display before you make your final decision to purchase. We invite you to come into our showrooms to view all our products available, the showrooms are here for you the customer.

At Rydale we do not take any deposits or stage payments, you only pay when you are fully satisfied. Rydale has been a trusted brand in our area for over 30 years. If we give you a guarantee we will always be here to honour it. Can that be said of any other company in the area? Rydale also offer a Supply Only service on all products including free delivery.

AT RYDALE WE CARE ABOUT THE CUSTOMER, SPEND YOUR MONEY WISELY.

VISIT OUR SHOWROOMS, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU THE CUSTOMER

RYDALE SERVICES
WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

CONSERVATORY REPAIR SPECIALISTS

- LOCKS
- SEALED UNITS
- GASKETS
- SEALANT
- HANDLES
- FASCIA & GUTTERING

Telephone: 0121 559 4211
Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen
www.rydalewindows.co.uk

MASSIVE DISCOUNT ON ALL ORDERS PLACED NOW FOR FEBRUARY INSTALLATION

SUPPLY ONLY WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES
MASSIVE DISCOUNTS

You are invited to visit one of the largest Conservatory and Window Showrooms in the UK

WINTER SALE NOW ON

Visit our Showroom & Factories for immediate quotations

Federation of Master Builders · Registered Fairtrades · Conservatory Council · ALL WINDOWS COMPLY TO PAS011: 1994 (IMPROVED SECURITY PERFORMANCE) · FENSA Registered Company · BBA British Board of Agrement · Manufactured in Great Britain · Euro cell Window System manufactured by Eurocell Profiles Ltd. · FMB The sign of building quality

TELEPHONE: 0121 559 4211

Open weekdays 9am to 5.30pm, Sat 9am to 4pm, Sun CLOSED

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen, B62 9LS

www.rydalewindows.co.uk

Rydale 10 Year Insurance Backed Guarantee

Muggers attack woman in front of little grandson

A WOMAN was pushed to the ground as she grappled with robbers in front of her three-year-old grandson in West Bromwich.

They were walking back from Asda in Great Bridge when attacked. Two men approached the 53-year-old from behind at the alleyway off Brickhouse Lane in Hill Top. She was pushed to the ground and struggled with one of the men where her bag containing purse and keys was taken.

During the struggle she may have hit the man causing an injury to his face. The two men then escaped on push bikes.

The woman and the boy were not seriously injured but left shaken following the incident at around 3pm last Thursday.

Sergeant Mick Dobson, who is investigating, said: "This was a traumatic ordeal for the victim, who was not only concerned for her safety but for that of her young grandson. Thankfully she was able to tackle the offenders, and possibly prevented a more serious incident.

One attacker is described as white, aged 18 to 30, around six ft tall, of skinny build, with short mousey hair. The second man was younger, and of smaller build. He wore dark clothing and his bike is described as "looking too big for him".

Call Smethwick police station on 0345 113 5000 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Rotary clubs offer subsidised holidays

THE ROTARY Clubs of Sandwell are celebrating their silver jubilee of offering discounted holidays which, every year, attract large numbers of pensioners, widows and widowers from across the borough.

The organisers are offering holidays at the Merton House Hotel in picturesque Ross-on-Wye, with places available for the weeks commencing March 19 and 26 this year.

The subsidised price for half-board accommodation and transport is £275.

Beautiful

There are a limited number of spaces and candidates go through a selection process.

Send a stamped self-addressed envelope and a note containing your name and telephone number to: Merton House Holiday Offer, Sandwell and Great Barr Chronicle, Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES; and we will pass your envelopes on to the team at the Rotary Clubs.

For more information on the hotel see the hotel's website at www.mertonhouse.org.

Move over, darlings

The cast in rehearsal for Move Over Mrs Markham

HIGHBURY Theatre Centre's next production is Move Over Mrs Markham – a fast-paced farce by the masters of the genre, Ray Cooney and John Chapman.

Set in a plush flat in north London in the early 1970s, the plot features confusion, misunderstandings, doubles entendres and plenty of opening and shutting of doors.

Directed by Ian Appleby, the comedy will be performed at Highbury Theatre Centre in Sheffield Road, Boldmere, from February 1 to 12. For tickets contact (0121) 373 2761.

Lisa Smith and Sue Downing prepare for the Tararaboomdeay show

Back to the good old days

COMEDY routines and songs from the good old days of British music hall will be performed to raise cash for a Black Country hospice.

The event, called Tararaboomdeay, after the music hall song, will be held at the Wilson Hall, in Colley Gate, Cradley, onFriday, January 28 at 7.30pm. It has been organised by staff at Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice and cash raised by the event will be donated to the hospice. Tickets are priced £8 and can be purchased from the fundraising office on 01384 377778. The show will feature comedy sketches and songs made famous by music hall acts such as Marie Lloyd and Vesta Tilley.

Fundraising administrator Sue Davison said: "Not only is this an event to raise funds for the hospice it also celebrates more than 100 years of comedy and music.

"It promises to be an excellent event and we are hoping around 160 people will attend. It is certainly something a little different and we hope people enjoy it."

New bid to squeeze motorists off roads

MOTORISTS could be squeezed out and car lanes reduced under plans to transform some of the busiest routes in the Black Country and Birmingham into "low carbon corridors".

Among routes being considered is the 404 bus route through Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall.

West Midlands transport authority Centro has revealed it is preparing a bid for between £50m and £60m of the Government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to pay for the project across the region.

The aim is to encourage people to change travel habits to ease congestion on the roads. Critics warned the move could spell misery for motorists.

It would see the introduction of new lanes for electric and hybrid buses, cycle lanes, electric car charging points and car sharing schemes along the busiest routes.

Travel plans for businesses and schools would also be developed to reduce the number of cars on the roads.

Healthier

People would be encouraged to walk and cycle more and embrace healthier lifestyles. The LSTF, £560m between 2011/12 and 2014/15, is available to transport authorities outside London to bid for funding for "sustainable travel", reduced congestion and to improve quality of life.

Public to host Irish folk act

AN award-winning Irish folk act will perform at West Bromwich arts centre The Public next month.

Lúnasa will play at the New Street venue in West Bromwich on February 10.

The five-piece group performed at the Moseley Folk Festival last year, in front of 13,000 at the Hollywood Bowl in 2001 and were also invited to perform at The White House in 2009.

Linda Saunders, managing director of The Public, said: "We're delighted that Lúnasa will be performing at The Public as part of their forthcoming world tour.

"As one of Ireland's most successful musical exports, the band certainly promise to deliver a fantastic evening of quality entertainment."

Tickets £13 in advance and £15 on the door and are available from www.thepublic.com or by calling 0121 533 7161. Doors open at 7.15pm.

B&L Garage Doors

- Insulated remote roller garage doors
- Up & over garage doors - remote & manual
- Sectional overhead doors
- Side hinged garage doors
- Steel framed or timber framed
- UPVC fascias cladding
- Wrought iron
- Fencing & gates
- Automation kits
- Cable repairs & garage door servicing

HENDERSON | CARDALE | GARADOR | HORMAN | WESSEX

ALL INSURANCE WORK UNDERTAKEN

20% OFF WITH THIS ADVERT

OFFER SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND VALID UNTIL FEBRUARY 2011

Freephone: 0800 924 7127

Email bandlshutters@tiscali.co.uk

www.rollershuttersandgaragedoors.co.uk

Quote ref: Express & Star

24 Hour Emergency Service: 07976 444 671

Workers prepare for new ring road

PREPARATIONS have begun at the site of the new West Bromwich ring road, with major roadworks to start within the next four weeks.

Work is under way in Alfred Street, Reform Street, Walsall Street, Hardware Street and Cronehills Linkway, where lanes are closed. The road will be built as part of the new £200 million Tesco development.

Engineers are currently looking at the location of utilities, including gas, electricity and water before contractors arrive on site to start work on the new road.

Bosses said major roadworks will start in the the town centre within a month and that details of disruptions would be made public to drivers soon.

Work had been due to start in the first week of January, but was delayed due to bad weather.

Councillor Ian Jones, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for jobs and economy, said: "Some of the preparatory utilities work has already started and we would expect the main contract for the ring road to start within the next month.

"The workers are currently looking at the site of utilities to establish whether any will need to be re-routed as part of the scheme."

The ring road will be created from the A41 Expressway which will run to the north east of the old petrol station site on to Reform Street.

Autumn

Work is expected to take until autumn to complete.

Two new roundabouts will be created as well as a mini-roundabout for access into a new petrol filling station.

The ring road will loop towards Cronehills Linkway and finish at Reform Street.

Work on the new road will mark the first step in the creation of the new Tesco development.

Prince's Trust charity runners

STUDENTS and staff from the Prince's Trust in the Black Country are set to run a marathon in aid of Cancer Research. The team of eight will split the challenge between them at Wednesbury Leisure Centre on January 26 from 9am.

Tracey Powell from the Prince's Trust said: "Five students and three members of staff aim to run around three miles each. More than three in four young people we helped last year moved into work, education or training. The (marathon) idea was developed by the students on a 12-week course and Sandwell Leisure Trust is supporting us with use of the gym to do this charity run."

To find out more about the run contact 0845 659 4815 and select option six.

Take That's Howard Donald

Take That star turns the tables

TAKE That star Howard Donald will take time out of rehearsals for the band's next stadium tour to return to his second love of DJing with an exclusive DJ set at £5 million Birmingham superclub Gatecrasher on January 29.

Opting for vocal house and electro styles, the Take That star was a major success with dancers last time he played the club on Broad Street.

"I love DJing because it is more intimate and I can get up close with people. What happens on the dance floor is purely down to the music I play, which is completely different to a stadium show," said Howard.

"I only want to play the best venues just like every other DJ and as my time is limited it's important that every booking I do counts. I had a great time at Gatecrasher last time."

Howard's set is part of Gatecrasher's Superstar Boudoir season at the 3,000 capacity club and he follows DJing legends including Eric Morillo, Paul Oakenfold, Ferry Corsten and Paul Van Dyk.

For more information see the club's website www.gatecrasher.com.

Historian leads move for civic tribute

Campaign to honour town's Gallipoli hero

A CAMPAIGN is being launched for a permanent memorial to a Smethwick soldier who won the military's highest accolade for bravery, the Victoria Cross, during the First World War.

Lieutenant Herbert James, who lived in Smethwick and attended Bearwood Primary and Smethwick Central schools, received the Victoria Cross in 1915 at Gallipoli for outstanding acts of bravery.

The Battle of Gallipoli, took place at the peninsula of Gallipoli, then part of the Ottoman Empire, between April 1915 and January 1916. A joint British and French operation was mounted to capture the Ottoman capital of Constantinople (now Istanbul, capital of modern Turkey) and secure a sea route to Russia. The attempt failed, with heavy casualties on both sides.

Lt James led two successful counter-attacks and saved a wounded comrade. He was also awarded the Military Cross and France's Croix de Guerre.

Despite that, Lt James, one of three soldiers from the town awarded the VC, is the only one without a plaque in his honour at the council house.

Local historian Chris Sutton is championing his cause. The 49-year-old, who works in Smethwick, said: "I have no idea why the others have been given plaques and not him.

"The only thing I can think of is that the other Smethwick VC winners, Able Seaman William Savage and Sergeant Harold John Colley, were both killed in action during the Second World War.

Survived

"Lt James survived the First World War and died in London in 1958."

Mr Sutton has been giving presentations on the VC winners for several years, and on Lt James, who lived in Three Shires Oak Road.

Lt James joined the 21st Lancers at Canterbury in 1909 before transferring to the Worcestershire Regiment.

Mr Sutton said studying his life in such detail had given a personal element to his campaign.

He said: "I feel I owe it to his memory to see that he is properly remembered."

Lt Herbert James: First World War hero has no plaque in his honour

Sandwell Council deputy leader Councillor Steve Eling said the council would consider installing a plaque in Smethwick Council House in honour of Herbert James.

Ravens reunion plans after 48 years

FORMER members of a Sandwell football club are desperate to trace two old players for a reunion planned for next year.

The Ravens, based in Smethwick, started playing in the Festival League in 1963. Organisers have already traced 18 of the players from the original squad, with just two missing. The men, both still believed to be living in the region, are Jonny Chalk, a full back, who at the time was a long distance lorry driver, and goalkeeper Stuart Allison or Allinson, widely known as "Tiny".

Organisers hope to find them before next July's reunion.

Five of the players were also in pop group The Dark Hours, which played around the Black Country.

Anyone who can help trace the two men should call Jon Foulkes on (0121) 558 9876.

WE WILL PAY THE V.A.T. INCREASE FOR YOU
FOR A LIMITED PERIOD

EDWARDIAN/VICTORIAN CONSERVATORIES
Fully Fitted Incl. Base from only...
£3999
We will beat any genuine lile for like quote from any established reputable company [10 years+]
BUY NOW PAY LATER - 12 months 0% Interest Free!
[Subject to terms & conditions]
FENSA
Registered Company 24875
Home Improvements Association Ltd
GOLD MEMBER

HUGE SAVINGS ON WINDOWS, DOORS, FASCIAS & SOFFITS!

SPECIAL OFFERS on Windows & Doors!

Celebrating Over 22 Years in Business
10 YEAR Guarantee
HUGE SAVINGS ON FASCIAS & SOFFITS

Do you want the Governments Money?
Go Solar!
Save The Environment & Save Your £££'S!
Call for more information

Is Your Felt Roof Leaking or Need Replacing?
• Life expectancy up to 50 years
• 20 year guarantee
Felt or Fibre Glass Roofing Available
A MULTITUDE OF USES
Firestone RubberCover is an ideal high performing system for a variety of flat roofing applications around your house

OAP Discount — GOLD MEMBER
INSTALLER of the YEAR 2008
StormSeal UK LIMITED Est. 1988
INSTALLER of the YEAR 2009
Disabled Discount
Conservatories • Windows • Doors • Porches • Fascias • Roofing • Solar
Freephone 0500 77 75 75

Walsall	01922 430 908	Stratford Upon Avon	01789 270 726
Cannock	01543 401 101	Leamington Spa	01926 702 303
Wolverhampton	01902 489 498	Telford	01952 427 667
Stafford	01785 318 699	Rugby	01788 211 019
Coventry	02476 960 880	Kidderminster	01562 539 341
Sandwell & Dudley	01384 847 123	Birmingham	0121 568 7388

Stormseal fitted our windows over 20 years ago, since moving we have had a conservatory and a full house of windows and recommended them to all our friends and family
Gittings of Dudley

Thank you to your office staff who co-ordinated everything perfectly
Mr and Mrs Simmons of Walsall

The way you and your company dealt with me from start to finish has beyond doubt more than met my requirements and given me total satisfaction. I am very impressed.
Mr Hemmings of Coventry

I was recommended to the company 10 years ago and recently had a conservatory fitted. I am over the moon with the quality and service.
Miss Rae of Stafford

GIFT VOUCHER
In Conjunction with Conservatory Order - One Item per customer
☐ Electrics including Fan Light ☐ Tiles
☐ Air Cooler/Heater ☐ Laminate Flooring
Please specify by ticking box
[Must be handed to representative on first visit]
FENSA PILKINGTON
FOR A FREE QUOTATION CALL OUR FREEPHONE NO.:
0500 77 75 75 LINES OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY
Regional Depot: 0121 568 7388 Fax: 0121 568 8818
Pinfold Street, Darlaston/Wednesbury WS10 8SY
Email: sureshie@uk@btconnect.com Website: stormsealuk.com
Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer

I am delighted with my conservatory and would highly recommend your firm.
Miss Challoner of Wolverhampton

star extra TRAVEL

KINGS OF LEON

IN CONCERT AT THE RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY

DAY EXCURSION, 30 MAY 2011, FROM £82.50pp

Kings of Leon have announced details of a series of huge headline outdoor shows next Summer including an eagerly anticipated gig in Coventry.

Their highly acclaimed fifth album 'Come Around Sundown' became their third consecutive album to debut at number 1 when it topped the UK album charts on release, claiming both the biggest week one sales of the year and the biggest ever first week digital sales along the way.

Like last year's Hyde Park show, their forth-coming December 2010 arena shows sold out in seconds and the Kings of Leon's Summer 2011 concerts are set to be one of the highlights of next year's live calendar.

Price includes:

- A General Admission ticket with a face value of £45 for an evening performance of Kings of Leon Live 2011 at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry on the 30 May 2011
- Return coach travel from selected local departure points

To book call: 01524 37500 quote WOL

or book online at www.starextra.concert.travel

Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782. Subject to availability.

thechronicle

Question mark over funding for health and leisure centre

THE future of Oldbury's £15 million new leisure centre was hanging in the balance this week after it emerged the Government was reviewing its decision to fund it.

The Portway Lifestyle Centre in Oldbury is one of 17 projects nationally awaiting a decision on funding from the Department of Health.

The centre has been in the pipeline for years and it was originally hoped it would be built and opened this year. But council chiefs are now waiting on the all-important decision from ministers about whether they can start the project at all.

The centre is planned for Newbury Lane, to replace the existing Oldbury Leisure Centre.

Sandwell Council granted planning permission for the first phase of the scheme in 2008, with work due to start in 2009.

Delays in funding mean the proposed opening date has been pushed back to 2012 at the earliest.

Under plans the building will include a sports hall, hydrotherapy pool and gym.There will also be a weight area, dance studio, climbing wall and floodlit five-a-side pitches.

The building will also be home to GP surgery Tividale Family Practice.

Boost

Priya Bassan, spokeswoman for the Department of Health, said: "The Portway Lifestyle Centre is one of 17 social care projects whose funding is currently being reviewed by ministers.

"A decision on funding will be made shortly and councils will be made aware as soon as possible."

Councillors from Oldbury said the development would be a massive boost to the surrounding area, which is one of the most deprived in the borough.

Councillor Martin Prestidge, member for Langley Ward, said: "I personally would be very, very disappointed if this scheme did not go ahead.

"This is an extremely innovative and exciting project, which would combine all aspects of health and wellbeing.

"A development of this kind would have a huge impact on the lives of people on the Lion Farm Estate and in Tividale, adjacent to the proposed site. These are some of the most deprived areas of Sandwell, which itself is one of the most deprived areas of the country."

Sandwell Council, one of the partners involved in the project, said it was unable to comment on the issue at the present time.

The Portway Lifestyle Centre planned for Oldbury

Tragedy as golfer dies after collapse

A FATHER died after suffering a heart attack during a round of golf at Great Barr Golf Club in Chapel Lane on Saturday.

Mick Rafter, believed to be in his late 70s, collapsed on the 10th hole fairway. It is understood his son was playing golf with him at the time.

Club professional Richard Beech tried to resuscitate Mr Rafter at the scene.

"One of our members came running in to alert us so we rang an ambulance and went down to see what was going on," he said. "We then did the best we could until the ambulance arrived."

Mr Rafter was taken to Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital by air ambulance but was pronounced dead shortly after arriving.

Mr Beech added: "He will be very missed at the golf club. He was a popular guy who used to play here with his son."

It is understood Mr Rafter lived locally.

Special Holocaust memorial events in borough

A HOLOCAUST Memorial event featuring an exhibition of young people's poetry, art, photography and written work, is taking place in Sandwell next week.

There will be a live performance of dance music and drama at the event that is taking place on Wednesday, January 26, at the Bethel Centre in Kelvin Way, West Bromwich.

The exhibition opens at 6pm and the event starts an hour later. It will feature the launch of a CD single composed by the local young singer songwriter Jacob Lloyd. It will be performed by him and a choir of 350 youngsters from Sandwell schools,and a signing choir from Wodensborough Community Technology College. The Sandwell Youth Symphony Orchestra will also perform and a Holocaust survivor will speak.

Sandwell cabinet member for youth, culture and leisure, Councillor Ann Shackleton said: "The purpose of the event is to remember the lessons from the holocaust and to bring together our multifaith and multicultural community. It is sure to be a moving and special experience."

Faith Leaders representing Jewish, Sikh, Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Buddhist faiths will be present . Tickets are free from Sandwell Youth Music and Arts Service on (0121) 569 8502.

On Sunday January 23, a Holocaust Day Memorial Service will be held in the Memorial Gardens, off High Street West Bromwich, 10.30am.

carsharesandwell.com

A FREE website to help people to share similar journeys by car in Sandwell and the rest of the West Midlands.

No internet? Please call us on: 08700 11 11 99

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

TRAVELWISE®

Share it

More cash in your wallet, fewer cars on the road

Half Price Winter Sale

hurry last few days!

All Fitted Bedrooms **Half Price**

0% APR 3 years interest free

or nothing to pay for the 1st year

free professional fitting service

NO VAT Price Increase!

Bring in your bedroom size for a free quote!

All Sliding Wardrobes **Half Price**

free 10 year guarantee

over 100 bedrooms to choose from instore

midlands largest bedrooms superstores

Sliding Wardrobes From Only £1299

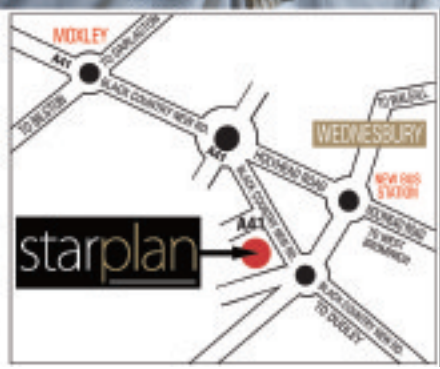
Wednesbury

Javelin Pk

T: 0121 506 4290

Also bedroom superstores at:
Solihull • Erdington • Stoke
Coventry • Bolton

www.starplanbedrooms.com



starplan

making bedrooms for you

SHOWCASE FIREPLACE LTD

LARGEST FIREPLACE RETAILER IN THE BLACK COUNTRY

Established 1998

www.showcasefireplaces.co.uk

Due to Showroom Refurbishment

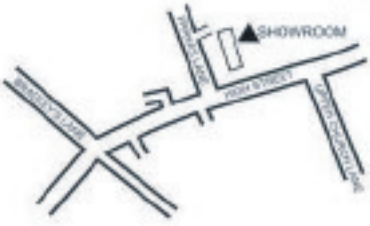
MASSIVE EX DISPLAY CLEARANCE NOW ON

We have many Fire Surrounds and Marble Sets to clear at low, low prices!

Inset Gas and Electric Fires
Wall Mounted and Hole-in-the-Wall Electric and Gas Fires
Electric & Gas Stoves - Freestanding Gas and Electric Fires
Solid Fuel Fires - Marble and Wood Fireplaces
all on show

Now Open Sundays
10.00am - 3.00pm

The Showcase Fireplace Ltd.



High Street, Princes End, Tipton DY4 9JF

Telephone: **0121 520 7802**

Showroom Opening Times
9-5 Monday to Saturday. Late night Thursday 9-6
Internet 24-7

PayPal
MasterCard
VISA
SWITCH

The Samuel 3 seater sofa.
2 accent cushions FREE.
SAVE DOUBLE **£399**
Was ~~£798~~ Sale ~~£599~~

The Lomas 4 seater sofa.
SAVE DOUBLE **£549**
Was ~~£1198~~ Sale ~~£875~~

The Cobra 3 seater sofa.
2 accent cushions FREE.
SAVE DOUBLE **£349**
Was ~~£698~~ Sale ~~£525~~

Double Savings in the DFS SALE

Today & This Week

You can rely on DFS. Everything in their **biggest ever Sale** is reduced with **Double Savings** on a huge choice of the latest designs – **even at sale time!** Don't wait – call in and save a fortune on your new sofa at DFS.

£599 SAVE DOUBLE
Was ~~£1098~~ Sale ~~£849~~

The Marvin 3 seater sofa **in 100% real leather.** Available in a choice of 29 colours at no extra cost. Matching 2 seater sofa, choice of sofabeds, choice of chairs and storage footstool **also with double savings.**

100% LEATHER

0% APR TYPICAL

All finance is free at DFS.
No deposit - Ever! No interest - Ever!
4 years free credit with nothing to pay for the first year on everything in store!

think sofas, think **dfs**

Birmingham 0121 772 3619 Camp Hill Middleway B12 0HU
Cannock 01543 574797 Linkway Retail Park, Longford Island WS11 1TD
Droitwich 01905 775737 Roman Way Retail Park, Kidderminster Road WR9 9AY

Opening Hours: Mon to Fri 9am to 8pm. Sat 9am to 6pm. Sun 11am to 5pm.

Save Time - Order Direct at **www.dfs.co.uk** or call Free on **0800 110 5000** 24 hours a day 7 days a week

The Cobra 3 seater sofa £349. Or take 4 years interest free credit with nothing to pay for the first year. No deposit and 36 equal monthly payments of £9.69 starting 12 months from date of order. Total £349. 0% APR. Credit subject to acceptance. Delivery charges apply. Redhouse Interchange, Doncaster, DN6 7NA. DFS may alter or extend promotion at any time. Mobile charges may apply when calling 0800 110 5000.

Fostering brings out the best in everyone.

Considered a career in fostering?

We are looking for people that can provide children with a safe and caring home. You will need an interest in childcare and a spare bedroom. We will provide you with full training, support and a financial package.

Come along to our information evening to find out more:

Thursday 3rd February, anytime between 5.30 pm-7.30 pm

Crystal House, Crystal Drive, Sandwell Business Park,
off the Oldbury Road, Smethwick B66 1QG

0800 358 0899

www.sandwell.gov.uk/fostering

Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

the pulse

The King's Speech review – page 34

YOUR EIGHT-PAGE ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE AND WEEK'S TV VIEWING

Theatre round-up – page 29

DVD review – page 34

Multi-talented Elaine in concert as she turns another Paige

AWARD-winning musical theatre star, multi-platinum recording artist and popular BBC Radio 2 presenter Elaine Paige, returns to the concert stage in 2011 including a performance at Birmingham Symphony Hall on March 7.

She has starred in numerous West End productions and on Broadway and in concert internationally, sweeping to fame with her performance as Eva Peron in Evita.

Shortly afterwards she created the role of Grizabella in the original production of Cats and the classic song Memory became one of the songs most closely associated with Elaine, pictured right.

Last November saw the release of her latest studio album, Elaine Paige & Friends.

Recorded in New York and produced by legendary record producer Phil Ramone for Rhino/Warner Bros Records, it features duets with 14 of her favourite musical performers.

Selection

These included, in alphabetical order: Paul Anka, John Barrowman, Michael Bolton, Kenny G, Barry Manilow, Johnny Mathis, Idina Menzel, Olivia Newton-John, Billy Ocean, Sinead O'Connor, LeAnn Rimes, Jon Secada, Neil Sedaka and Dionne Warwick.

The album entered the Top 20 in the UK and Elaine was awarded a gold disc for sales of more than 100,000 by the end of the year.

Her return to the concert stage with a new show will feature a selection of her favourite standards, her greatest hits and some of the modern classics from her new album.

Tickets are priced from £29.50 to £38.50 (with special packages including meeting the star after the show for £80) and are available from the box office on 0121 780 3333 or visit www.thsh.co.uk online.

The Secret Sisters, Laura and Lydia Rogers – concert date

Sisters in Symphony

A PAIR of young sisters reviving the sounds of classic 1940s and 50s country music will be the special guest of singer/songwriter Ray LaMontagne when he appears with his Pariah Dogs at Birmingham Symphony Hall on February 20.

The Sunday night concert will feature The Secret Sisters, Laura and Lydia Rogers of Alabama, who recently recorded their debut album in Nashville with legendary producers T Bone Burnett and Dave Cobb.

Their self-titled album combines harmonies on a selection of broken-hearted laments, honky tonk toe-tappers and easy listening standards.

The duo recently reached a wider audience with their performance on Jools Holland's Hootenanny.

Tickets for LaMontagne's concert are priced at £22.50 and £25.

Get Active FOR LESS!

CREATING AN ACTIVE SANDWELL

UNLIMITED

Memberships, No joining fee

UNLIMITED

Still less than £1 per day

AFFORDABLE, SAFE & LOCAL

Follow me! twitter SLTGetActive

SANDWELL LEISURE TRUST

www.slt-leisure.co.uk

0845 659 4815

Time To Get Active

Registered Charity (England & Wales - Registered Number 1102431)

in partnership with Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Audience to revel in Chess masterpiece

THERE'S more to Craig Revel Horwood than judging dancers on Strictly Come Dancing.

The director has won acclaim for his flamboyant touring revival of 80s West End musical Chess, a collaboration between Tim Rice and Abba's Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson.

The show, featuring former Wicked performer Shona White, was a hit in Wolverhampton last year and returns to the West Midlands for a run at Birmingham Hippodrome from February 7 to 12.

The show, about the duel between rival Russian and American chess grandmasters, features such songs as One Night In Bangkok, Pity The Child and the classic I Know Him So Well.

Tickets are priced from £13.50 to £37.50, available online at www.birminghamhippodrome.com or by calling 0844 338 5000.

Shona White takes centre stage in Craig Revel Horwood's revival of Chess, which is returning to the West Midlands with a run at Birmingham Hippodrome

Cantankerous Tom will soften your heart

WARTIME weepy Goodnight Mister Tom is being brought to the stage at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre next month.

The play is an adaptation of Michelle Magorian's hugely popular children's novel about how a young London evacuee with a sad secret forges a friendship with his cantankerous old host, the titular Mister Tom, in a rural community.

Playing Mister Tom, a role associated with the late John Thaw from a popular TV film version, is Royal Shakespeare Company actor Oliver Ford Davies, who will be familiar to fans of the blockbuster Star Wars movies as Sio Bibble in The Phantom Menace, Attack of the Clones and Revenge of the Sith.

Goodnight Mister Tom is staged at the Grand nightly from February 8 to 12 with matinees on the Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Tickets are priced from £6.50 to £22.50. Contact the box office on 01902 429212 or at www.grandtheatre.co.uk

From Cornish shanties to Definite Diva songs

CORNISH harmonies as smooth as clotted cream will be heard at Birmingham Town Hall on Tuesday, January 25, when Port Isaac's Fisherman's Friends will be in concert with songs and sea shanties from the North Cornwall fishing village (tickets £17.50).

Other forthcoming musical highlights in the city include on Thursday, January 27, a lunchtime recital by Ji Liu, winner of the Brant Piano Competition, performing Bach's Goldberg Variations (Town Hall, £7.50); on the same day, just over an hour later at 2.15pm, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra bring spring to the city early with a performance of Beethoven and Schumann's Spring Symphonies (Symphony Hall, £9.50-£35).

On January 28, the CBSO present showbiz and pop favourites at the hall with Definitive Divas – Mary Carewe, Grainne Renihan and Emer McParland. Tickets cost £9.50 to £39.50. Call 0121 780 3333 or visit www.thsh.co.uk

COMPETITION

Music memories are just the ticket

DIRECT from the USA and celebrating 50 years of number one Motown hits, the Magic of Motown tribute concert show is heading for Wolverhampton.

It is due to book into the Grand Theatre on Saturday, February 5 and the Chronicles have teamed up with the promoters to offer eight readers the chance to win free tickets and extras. The prize will consist of a pair of tickets, DVD, CD and programme for the 5pmperformance. The ticket price is £19.50 and there is a later performance at 8pm (£21.50).

The record label that brought the likes of the Temptations, Diana Ross and the Supremes, the Four Tops, Stevie Wonder, the Jackson 5, Marvin Gaye, Lionel Richie, Martha Reeves, Smokey Robinson, Mary Wells and the Isley Brothers to the world enjoyed its first number one hit in 1961. Please Mr Postman by the Marvelettes was followed by a phenomenal 56 other Billboard chart toppers.

To enter answer this simple question:

In which American city was the Motown label based?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name, address and daytime phone number to: Motown Competition, Chronicles (Editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: January 27.

Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final. There is no cash alternative. To buy tickets contact the box office: 01902 429212 http://www.grandtheatre.info

Travelstyle TOP 5
This week's late deals by coach

DEPARTING FROM YOUR LOCAL WEST MIDLANDS DEPARTURE POINT		DAYS	WAS	NOW
MON 31 JAN FOLKESTONE & BRUGES	SALISBURY HOTEL	5	£139.95	£99.95
MON 31 JAN TORQUAY	RAINBOW HOTEL	5	£149.95	£99.95
MON 21 FEB LLANDUDNO	CHATSWORTH HOTEL	5	£159.95	£139.95
MON 21 FEB WESTON, SAND BAY	(ADULTS ONLY)	5	£179.95	£159.95
MON 21 FEB ABERFOYLE & OBAN	ROB ROY HOTEL	5	£169.95	£149.95

NEW BOOKINGS ONLY. NO FURTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY
Lots more bargains at www.travelstyletours.co.uk

Europe
• Austrian Tyrol • Lake Garda • Switzerland • Costa Brava • Ostend • Eire • Jersey • Brittany • Paris • Croatia
FROM £169.95
DISNEYLAND 4/5 DAYS FROM £259.95

Newquay
St Ives & Padstow
• Newquay Hotel • Visits to St Ives & Padstow
5 DAYS FROM £119.95
4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast MON 28 FEB, 7, 21 MAR, 4, 18, 25 APR

National Hotel, Dingwall
DINGWALL
LOCH NESS & ISLE OF SKYE
8 Hour FREE BAR 7pm-10pm EVERY NIGHT
• Some evening entertainment
TWO FREE COACH TRIPS
• Loch Ness & Inverness • Isle of Skye
5 DAYS
4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast MON 21 FEB 21, 28 MAR 18 APR
FROM £189.95

THEATRE WEEKENDS FROM £99.95
★ Billy Elliot ★ Chicago ★ Dirty Dancing ★ Grease ★ Jersey Boys ★ Les Miserables ★ Lion King ★ Priscilla ★ Love Never Dies ★ Mamma Mia ★ Mystery Show ★ Phantom ★ We Will Rock You ★ Wicked ★ Wizard of Oz ★ Shrek ★ Legally Blonde

4/5 DAYS BY COACH
★Bournemouth ★Brighton ★Newquay ★Llandudno ★Blackpool ★Scarborough ★Weston ★Ilfracombe ★Torquay ★Paignton ★Eastbourne ★Folkestone ★Isle of Wight ★Tenby ★Weymouth ★Scotland ★Tynemouth ★Lake District ★Skegness ★Yarmouth ★Mystery Pricebuster... plus many more
FROM £79.95
PLUS MANY MORE - DEPARTING ALL YEAR

FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURE OR TO BOOK CALL
01246 224411
or visit www.travelstyletours.co.uk

COME IN OUT OF THE COLD!
AT GREAT BRIDGE INDOOR MARKET
Car Boot on Friday 9am - 2pm, Sunday 9am - 1pm
Don't Forget... Normal Market On:
Wednesday 9am - 2pm, Saturday 9am - 2pm
SPECIAL OFFER
FRIDAY CAR BOOT
£8 per Stall
SUNDAY CAR BOOT
£10 per Stall
sketts QUALITY EVENTS
Trade Enquiries
0121 557 2028
Mobile (Ian)
07950 132516
High Street, Great Bridge
WE ARE HERE
P
HIGH ST.
A4037

Ceilidh Break
Loch Awe Hotel STB ★★★
Argyllshire
This five day coach break staying at our Loch Awe Hotel includes a "Ceilidh Night" (Kay-lee), when you will enjoy typical Scottish entertainment with foot tapping music provided by accordionists, pipers and highland dancers. There will be an excursion everyday including a cruise on Loch Lomond, Inveraray, Oban, The Sealife Centre, Fort William, Glencoe & Rannoch Moor.
All for just £176 per person
Includes
• 4 Nights half board
• Nightly Entertainment
• All Excursions
• Pickup from Birmingham, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall
Your special coach departs Tuesday 1st March
LOCHS & GLENS HOLIDAYS
Holidays are fully Bonded
01389 713713
School Road, Gartocharn G83 8RW
www.lochs.com

DanceMagic 4 You
At the Wednesbury Dance Centre
LEARN TO DANCE THE EASY WAY
IN A SOCIAL ATMOSPHERE
A NEW ADULT STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTION CLASS
COMMENCES FRIDAY 21ST JANUARY 2011
At 8.15 pm till 9.30 pm
Enjoy dances like Cha Cha Cha - Waltz - Social Rock n' Roll Quickstep - Jive - Rumba - Tango - Social Salsa and other dances in Vogue during this series of classes
Further details go to dancemagic4you.co.uk
Enquire 0121 556 5285 - or text 07753 686 314
PLUS
'ZUMBA' WITH DENISE'
ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 7.15 pm
AND
CHILDREN'S DANCING
From 3 years to 16 years. Saturday Mornings
AT A WELL ESTABLISHED FULL TIME STUDIO
THE WEDNESBURY DANCE CENTRE 17/18 Market Place, First floor over Ladbrokes, next door Bright House, Wednesbury Town Centre WS10 7AY

'Over 200 Stalls'!
The famous!
BESCOT SUNDAY MARKE
at
WALSALL FOOTBALL CLU
Junction 9 - M6 WS1 4SA
Is Open EVERY SUNDAY 9am - 3.00
Tel:01384 877336 or 07889 975
NEW LARGE FREE CAR PARK NOW OPEN
www.lsdpromotions.com

the pulse

Saturday TV

SCS SALE 25%off LA-Z-BOY EXCLUSIVE RANGE ONLY FOR WWW.SCS.CO.UK or call 0800 731 0048 SCS

Choice

THE MAGICIANS (BBC1, 7pm).

Imagine British Got Talent, but with little showers and disappearing rabbits! Again the opening look is of a specially created set on Pinewood Studios, each magician will perform with a different celebrity partner each week with the three pairs presenting their acts from the circular stage to the mesmerised judges and adjudicating their respective roles as the challenge artists debate. The magicians will be pitted against their own fraud especially be it sawing people in two or slight-of-hand card tricks, as the tournament will then weekly challenge contestants designed to test both the competitors' originality, ingenuity and ambition.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **10.00** Eating Media Easy (R). **11.00** BBC News Regional News; Weather. **11.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Australian Open Tennis. **3.00** Live Bowls: The men's singles continues in the World Indoor Championship. **4.40** First Score. **4.50** BBC News Regional News; Weather. **5.00** Hole in the Wall. With John Partridge, Sian Reeves, Kate Lawler and Jonathan Ansell. (R)

6.00 All Star Mr & Mrs. Adventure game show hosted by Richard Hammond and Amanda Byram.

7.00 The Magicians. With Hi Duke, Martin Kemp and Rolf Harris.

8.00 The National Lottery: Is You Who Is. Quiz show involving lots of important numbers.

8.45 Casualty. Fifth medical breaking point.

9.45 Come Fly with Me. Taj Mahal on the trip into Harry Potter star Rupert Grint and Great British Air crashes! Employee forced to deal with passengers from the lower classes. (R)

10.45 BBC News Weather.

10.50 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Manchester United v Birmingham City.

11.45 National Lottery Update.

11.50 The Football League Show. Match Of The Day presents highlights of today's games; West Ham v Leeds.

12.45 BBC News.

BBC2

9.00 CBeebies. **3.00** CBBC. **4.00** Bamiyan: Site Where. (R) **4.40** Film: The Mudlover. (2000) Grandiose adventure, starring Austin Chambers. **6.00** Film: The Kid. (2000) Disney comedy, starring Bruce Willis. **8.00** Flog It! (R) **9.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **10.00** The Bear Family and Me. (R)

11.00 Dad's Army. The platoon decides to recruit women. (R)

11.30 The Ronnie Corbett Show. Featuring a one-off episode of the comedy. (R)

12.00 Of 'Ell. With Sandi Toksvig, John Lloyd and Johnny Vegas.

12.30 The Weakest Link. Non-series. The legendary Katherine Howard discusses Henry's fifth wife, but her beauty and disgraced past influence the positions of trusted courtier Thomas Culpepper.

1.00 Horse Deals. New series. After breaking up with Eddie, Jackie tries to reconnect with her family but she realises the end of her mother when her sadover overloaded and she runs out of chips.

1.30 Rhyme and Reason. Featuring Austin Edwards, Humphrey Lyttelton and Jack Paterson. (R)

2.00 Bonkers.

3.00 Film: The Big Hack. (1999) Crime drama, starring Brian Ford. **5.00** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **9.00** CITV. **9.25** Convention Street. **10.00** This Morning Saturday. **12.00** Mark. (R) **1.00** ITV News; Weather. **1.10** Film: Honey. (2000) Urban dance drama, starring Jessica Alba. **4.00** Film: Star Wars Episode III – Revenge of the Sith. (2005) Sci-fi adventure prequel, starring Hayden Christensen.

6.40 Regional Programmes.

6.50 ITV Short Weather.

6.55 Harry Hill's The Best of TV Burp. Classic clips from previous series.

7.00 Poirot. Connor and Abby discover a opportunity not to be missed in art.

8.00 This Life On. A musical-and-champion, a cool clique, a car collection and a dead dancer by taking in over 90 single women, and last weeks couples go on their dates. Paddy McGuinness presents.

9.15 Bad Mama. Mick goes Jackie dating and goes to the Cotton Wool Club and Brandy plays a practical joke on Martin that exposes his gullible side. Comedy with Steve Pemberton. (R)

10.15 ITV Short Weather.

10.20 Film: The Man Who Cried Wolf. (2000) Jack Anderson comedy, starring Steve Carell, Catherine Keener and Paul Rudd.

12.40 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. **12.45** The Stories Who. **1.45** ITV Nightscene. **2.00** ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.00 The Media. (R) **6.30** The Media. (R) **7.00** Passports on a. (R) **7.30** GT Academy. (R) **8.00** The Morning Line. **8.30** T4: Friends. (R) **8.00** T4: City Mum' Hot List. **9.00** T4: Class. **9.30** T4: The Album Chart. Chart show introduced by Dolly. Dolly Mixture. **10.00** T4: Friends. (R) **10.30** T4: Friends. (R) **11.00** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** Channel 4 Racing. **4.30** Come Dine with Me. **5.00** Come Dine with Me. **5.30** Come Dine with Me. **6.00** Come Dine with Me. **6.30** Come Dine with Me.

7.00 Channel 4 News.

7.55 Weather.

8.00 FILM: Night at the Museum. (2006) Fantasy-comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Robin Williams.

9.40 British Comedy Awards. Jonathan Ross returns to host the star-studded annual ceremony, featuring new categories for Best Male and Best Female TV Comedy and a special award to celebrate King or Queen of Comedy icons. The British Comedy Awards: Live Lookin' on E4 at 11pm.

11.40 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. With Jonathan Ross, Kevin Bridges, Jack Whitehall and Adele. (R)

12.40 Film: Without and If. (2002) Cult black comedy with Michael E Gierst and Paul McGann. **2.40** Old Street. (R) **3.40** Dirty Sexy Money. (R) **4.40** Beauty and the Geek. (R) **5.40** Countdown. (R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! **9.00** Animal Rescue Squad. (R) **10.30** Australia Park: The True Story. (R) **11.00** Secrets of the Bible: Revealed. (R) **12.00** Emergency Bikes. (R) **1.00** Film: Logan's Run. (1976) Sci-fi thriller, starring Michael York. **3.00** Film: Chisum. (1970) Western, starring John Wayne. **5.00** Five News. **5.30** Film: MacO. (1974) Crime thriller, starring John Wayne, Eddie Albert, Diana Muldaur, Colleen Dewhurst and David Huddleston.

7.00 HOLA. A former Marine falls to his death. (R)

8.00 CSI: Miami. A prison bus is involved in an accident, and forensic investigators take advantage of the confusion to make good their escape – including Horatio! Crime Drama, with David Caruso. (R)

9.00 CSI: NY. A woman who recently lost her son to death appears to identify her son as the attacker, but the case takes a complete turn when a cow kicked by doctor confesses to the crime.

10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A 12-year-old girl goes missing. (R)

11.00 Forensic Files. Scientific and forensic techniques.

12.00 Super Casino. **1.00** Emergency Bikers. (R) **2.00** Made in Norway. (R) **3.00** Hands Helping. (R) **4.00** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **4.30** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.00** Recycle Finding Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2

4.50 American Idol: The Architect. **5.35** Film: Thinner. (1996) **8.00** Film: The Great Raid. (2005) **11.00** Film: The Full Ride: The Kimberly Rodgers Story. (2008)

ITV3

5.00 Royal's Star Wars. **6.00** Inspector Lewis. **8.00** Rosemary & Thyme. **9.00** Midsomer Murders. **11.00** Murder Rooms.

ITV4

3.30 Film: The Great Escape City. (2000) **5.00** Film: The Rain Killer. (1990) **7.00** The Professionals. **8.00** The Sweeney. **9.00** Film: Kung Fu Panda. **11.00** Film: Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy. (2005)

BBC THREE

7.00 Top Gear. **8.00** Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian. (2008) **10.35** Live at the Apollo. **11.00** Family Guy. **11.30** Australian Idol.

BBC FOUR

7.00 Worth Reading. **9.00** The Glasgow Boys. **10.00** The Kitty Wells Show: Queen of Country. **11.00** Wild Man Lost.

E4

12.00 Hollyoaks. **1.00** Made in Chelsea. **2.00** Film: The Big Bang Theory. **3.00** Hollyoaks. **5.00** Film: The Big Bang Theory. **6.00** The Cleveland Show. **6.30** Family Guy. **7.00** The British Comedy Awards Live. **10.00** Lookin'.

FILM 4

3.50 Film: Mulholland Drive. (2001) **5.35** Film: Mulholland Drive. (2001) **8.00** Film: The Great Raid. (2005) **10.00** Film: Dillinger. (2009) Crime drama, starring Christian Bale. **12.00** Film: Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy. (2005)

ScS SALE 25% off EXCLUSIVE RANGE ONLY FOR ScS www.scs.co.uk or call 0800 [illegible]

Sunday TV

Choice

LARK RISE TO CANDLEFORD
(BBC1, 8pm).

Thomas is over the moon when he is put in charge of organising the church [illegible], but his enthusiasm soon evaporates when the vicar [illegible] and Pearson [illegible] Marley [illegible]. Marley is well thought of in Lark Rise, and only Emma [illegible] in his presence. Years earlier, Robert Timmins [illegible] Marley from their cottage, so she is quick to [illegible] offer of help while her husband is away. Thomas remains [illegible] that Marley has taken a role in planning the [illegible] and when he spots [illegible] while on his postal rounds, he sees it as a sign that the devil is among the villagers.

BBC1

[illegible] Breakfast. [illegible] Match of the Day. (R) [illegible] The Andrew Marr Show. [illegible] The Big Questions. [illegible] Countryfile. [illegible] The Politics Show. [illegible] Bargain Hunt. (R) [illegible] Escape to the Country. (R) [illegible] EastEnders. [illegible] My Family. (R) [illegible] Songs of Praise. [illegible] BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

[illegible] **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce and the team value items at [illegible] Manor. (R)

[illegible] **Countryfile.** A visit to the [illegible] Hills in Somerset.

[illegible] **Lark Rise to Candleford.** Thomas becomes concerned Lark Rise's [illegible] is evil.

[illegible] **Terry Wogan's Ireland.** Part one of two. More than 40 years after moving to England to pursue his broadcasting career, the presenter returns to his native land to discover how it has changed.

[illegible] **BBC News; Regional News; Weather**

[illegible] **Reggie [illegible].** [illegible] worried about seeing [illegible] again. (R)

[illegible] **[illegible].** [illegible] renew their wedding vows. (R)

[illegible] **FILM: [illegible].** (1994) Comedy drama, starring Hugh Grant.

[illegible] Sign Zone: [illegible] Landscapes. (R) [illegible] Holby City. (R) [illegible] Climbing Great Buildings. (R) [illegible] BBC News.

BBC2

[illegible] CBeebies. [illegible] CBBC. [illegible] Something for the Weekend. [illegible] Film 2011 with Claudia Winkleman. (R) [illegible] Diagnosis Murder. (R) [illegible] Film: Jubal. (1956) Western, starring Glenn Ford. [illegible] Live Bowls. The men's singles final in the World Indoor Championships. [illegible] Ski Sunday.

[illegible] **Ray Mears' Northern Wilderness.** The survival expert embarks on a journey through the Canadian wilderness, beginning in the boreal forest, which is home to a diverse population of animals and plants. (R)

[illegible] **The Funny Side of Live TV.** Clive Anderson takes a humorous look at the history of live TV, highlighting what can go wrong when the programme-makers have no second chance. (R)

[illegible] **Top Gear.** New series. Jeremy Clarkson test-drives the [illegible].

[illegible] **Arctic with Bruce Parry.** How three communities have adapted to life in Alaska.

[illegible] **Match of the Day 2.** Including highlights of Blackburn Rovers v West Bromwich Albion.

[illegible] **Never Mind the Buzzcocks.** With guest team captain Russell Brand. (R)

[illegible] **FILM: Pulp Fiction.** (1994) Crime drama, starring John Travolta.

[illegible] BBC News. [illegible] Close.

ITV1

[illegible] CITV. [illegible] Mini CITV. [illegible] CITV. [illegible] May the Best House Win. (R) [illegible] The Biggest Loser. (R) [illegible] This Morning: Sunday. [illegible] Dinner Date. (R) [illegible] ITV News; Weather. [illegible] Film: Columbo: [illegible]. (1970) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. [illegible] Midsomer Murders. (R) [illegible] Regional Programmes. [illegible] ITV News; Weather.

[illegible] **Dancing on Ice.** The 12 remaining celebrities skate together for the first time, each hoping not to become the fifth contestant to be voted off.

[illegible] **[illegible].** Drama investigation into an arms-smuggling ring [illegible] home.

[illegible] **Dancing on Ice: The Skate Off.** The two bottom-scoring couples compete.

[illegible] **The Sunday Night Show.** John Prescott and Catherine Tate join Adrian Chiles in the studio.

[illegible] **ITV News; Weather**

[illegible] **Crusty Foods with [illegible].** With Jenny Eclair, [illegible] McGowan, Russell Kane and Olly Murs. (R)

[illegible] **[illegible] with [illegible].**

[illegible] The Zone. [illegible] ITV News Headlines. [illegible] Film: The Day of the Jackal. (1973) A terrorist group hires renowned professional hitman the Jackal to assassinate President de Gaulle of France. Thriller, with Edward Fox. [illegible] ITV Nightscreen. [illegible] ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

[illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] Great British Dorms. (R) [illegible] That Paralympic Show. (R) [illegible] T4: Battlefront. [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Hollyoaks. [illegible] T4: Glee. (R) [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) [illegible] Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) [illegible] Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) [illegible] Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) [illegible] Jamie's 30 Minute Meals. (R) [illegible] Deal or No Deal. [illegible] Film: Stardust. (2007) Fantasy adventure, starring Charlie Cox and Claire Danes.

[illegible] **Channel 4 News.**

[illegible] **[illegible].** Kevin Fitzpatrick argues against legalising euthanasia.

[illegible] **Come Dine with Me.** Four hosts compete for the £1,000 prize in east Lancashire.

[illegible] **FILM: What Happens in Vegas.** (2008) Premiere. Two strangers wake up after a drunken night in Las Vegas to discover they are married and have won $3 million. Romantic comedy starring Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Dennis Farina and Treat Williams.

[illegible] **British Comedy Awards.** Jonathan Ross hosts the 22nd annual ceremony. (R)

[illegible] Film: Bright Young Things. (2003) Comedy, with Stephen Campbell Moore. [illegible] Wedding House. (R) [illegible] Brothers & Sisters. (R) [illegible] ER. (R) [illegible] Countdown. (R)

Channel 5

[illegible] Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R) [illegible] Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) [illegible] Fireman Sam. (R) [illegible] Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) [illegible] The Beeps. (R) [illegible] Little Princess. (R) [illegible] The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) [illegible] Family [illegible]. [illegible] Rupert Bear. (R) [illegible] Chuck. (R) [illegible] The Mr Men Show. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake! Show. (R) [illegible] How Do They Do It? (R) [illegible] How Do They Do It? (R) [illegible] Cowboy Builders. (R) [illegible] Mickey Mouse: Lonesome Ghost. (R) [illegible] Film: Three Ninjas: High Noon at Mega Mountain. (1998) Comedy adventure sequel, starring Hulk Hogan. [illegible] Film: See Spot Run. (2001) Canine comedy starring David Arquette. [illegible] Film: Aladdin. (1992) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Robin Williams. [illegible] Five News. [illegible] Film: The Fifth Element. (1997) Sci-fi adventure, starring Bruce Willis.

[illegible] **Ice Road Truckers.** (R)

[illegible] **FILM: The Transporter.** (2002) Action adventure, starring Jason Statham.

[illegible] **FILM: True Romance.** (1993) Crime thriller, starring Christian Slater, Patricia Arquette and Dennis Hopper.

[illegible] SuperCasino. [illegible] Cowboy Builders. (R) [illegible] Meals in Moments. (R) [illegible] Hannah's Helpline. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake! Show. (R) [illegible] Thomas & Friends. (R) [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

E4
[illegible]

ITV2
[illegible] Film: [illegible] (1980) [illegible] Agatha Christie's Poirot. [illegible] The Return of Sherlock Holmes. [illegible] Agatha Christie's Marple

ITV4
[illegible]

BBC THREE
[illegible]

BBC FOUR
[illegible]

E4
[illegible]

FILM4
[illegible]

the pulse

Monday

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Tuesday

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Wednesday

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Thursday

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Friday

BBC1

BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

B&D BLINDS

Vertical, Venetian, Awnings and Roller Blinds

- 12 Month Guarantee
- All made to measure - Supply and Fit
- Washable Blinds Available
- Friendly, Personal Service
- Full Range of Colours

Now covering caravan blinds, repair & replacements

0121 421 1000 • 07956 416016
153 CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY B68 0EL

JANUARY BLINDS SALE

Verticals, Romans, Rollers and more
FREE measuring FREE fitting

EVERY BLIND IN OUR BESTSELLING SPECTRUM & STUDIO COLLECTIONS IS HALF PRICE!

HURRY OUR JANUARY SALE ENDS SOON!
0800 916 6511
www.hillarys.co.uk

Window and Door Repairs

Specialists in: Misty and broken glass units
Leaks, seals and drafts

Handles, hinges and locks - repaired or replaced • INSURANCE WORK - NO PROBLEM
Rectification of badly fitted installations
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

GUESTS
Over 25 years experience – COMPETITIVE PRICES!!!
For free advice and quote call Mark Guest on
01384 456490 or 07976 227034

USE YOUR LOFT!

Bison Loft Ladders

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison lo stairs. The stairs are m and fitted by our Midlar craftsmen using timber sustainable sources. A strut mechanism requir just fingertip control ma opening and closing yo stairs exceptionally eas

- Fully manufactured in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from
- Full 10 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product av with a safety handle the loft
- Patented gas strut operation
- Fitted in approx 2 h

£395 Special offer for limited time only starting from £240 (incl VAT) Quote Ref B2

Safety hand rail Unique to Bison

Flooring and lighting ca be provided, adding a v useful additional room your home.

~~7,000~~ Over 5,000 installations to date!

All major credit cards accepted

theloftstairscompa

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 59, Atcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk
Freephone 0800 389 12

BROWNHILLS OUTDOOR MARKET
Silver Street, Brownhills WS8 6ER
Opening hours 9am to 4pm
EVERY THURSDAY & SATURDAY
• Very large outdoor market • Well-known traders
• Lots of stalls • Meat Auctions
• Delicious food and refreshments
• Toilets • Free Parking
(Market situated next door to Tesco)
www.lsdpromotions.com

wednesbury kitcher
Bathrooms & Bedrooms LTD

Opening times:
Monday-Friday: 9.30am-5.00p
Closed: Thursday & Sunday
Saturday: 9.30am-2.00pm

Friendly advise from a family run business with 35 years experier
We offer a full range of services from free quote and design to installation central heating, building work, plastering and tiling
Call or visit today.
45 LOWER HIGH STREET, WEDNESBURY WS10 7AQ
0121 505 3334
www.kitchenbathroombedrooms.com

CUT OUT THI MIDDLEMAN AND BUY DIRECT!!
FIREPLACE FACTORY DIREC

FREE SURVE

Open Mon-Fri
8 am-4 pm
Saturday
8 am-2 pm

UNIT 12, PARKROSE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, MIDDLEMORE ROAD B66 2DZ
0121 558 8265
WWW.FIREPLACEFACTORYDIRECT.CO.UK

TORQUAY
Rainbow Hotel
★Entertainment ★Car Park ★Lift ★Indoor pool
3 DAYS 2 nights dinner, bed & breakfast FRI 28 JAN 4, 11, 18, 25 FEB 4, 11, 18, 25 MAR £59.95
5 DAYS 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast MON 31 JAN 7, 14, 21, 28 FEB 7, 14, 21, 28 MAR £109.95
Travelstyle Drive Time 01246 224411 JOIN OUR E-CLUB FOR REGULAR SPECIAL OFFERS!
www.travelstyletours.co.uk
OVER 100 UK HOTELS FROM £20 PER NIGHT HALF BOARD
CALL FOR YOUR FREE SELF DRIVE BROCHURE

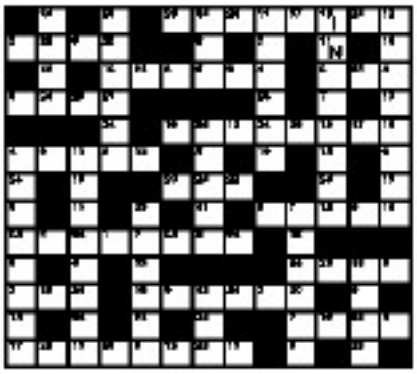
LLANDUDNO
Risboro Hotel
★Car Park ★Indoor pool ★Lift
3 DAY 60's WEEKENDS 2 nights dinner, bed & breakfast FRI 28 JAN 11, 18, 25 FEB 11, 18, 25 MAR £65
5 DAYS 4 nights dinner, bed & breakfast MON 21, 28 FEB 7, 14, 21, 28 MAR 4, 11, 18, 25 APR FROM £119.95
Travelstyle Drive Time 01246 224411 JOIN OUR E-CLUB FOR REGULAR SPECIAL OFFERS!
www.travelstyletours.co.uk
OVER 100 UK HOTELS FROM £20 PER NIGHT HALF BOARD
CALL FOR YOUR FREE SELF DRIVE BROCHURE

Brain Gym

No.100

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

T	G	C	U	Y	D	L	Z	J	W	X	O	S
N	N	B	F	K	R	I	E	Q	H	P	V	A

Double Crossword

Clues are for quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. A lot of wines sold in production creating (5,5)
8. Hundreds stops while reading (4)
9. Proposed change when schoolgirls duel (4)
10. Relief for cat food (7)
12. Mirror of the Mad Hatter (7)
13. The navy navy on [illegible] (3,4)
16. Problem may form a conjunction to us under (4)
18. Young politicians: the [illegible] to be [illegible] (4)
20. Previous one could name magic? (4)
22. Dramatic plot [illegible] (10)

Down

1. The [illegible] (9)
2. Enthusiast caused by an economic falling [illegible] (4)
3. [illegible] (7)
4. Shallow and vanish (5)
5. [illegible] (7)
6. [illegible] (9)
11. Individual chance on [illegible] (8)
12. [illegible] (8)
15. Bellow and call [illegible] (5)
17. In among those left on flight (6)
19. [illegible] (6)
21. Regarded sounding [illegible] (4)

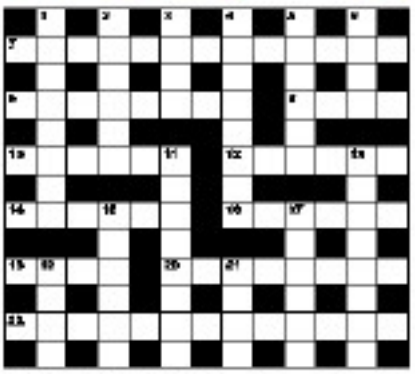
Quick Clues:

Across

7. Lasagna (12)
8. [illegible] (9)
9. Mind (4)
10. Flight (5)
13. Photo (9)
14. Portal (9)
16. Brilliant (4)
18. Incentive (6)
20. Point out (6)
22. [illegible] (7,7)

Down

1. Lasagna (8)
2. Eviction (5)
3. Thought (6)
4. Bellowable (4)
5. Skill in (5)
6. Beauty (6)
11. Stages (4)
15. Building (5)
16. Fervent (5)
17. Change (5)
19. Climbed (4)
21. Bounty (4)

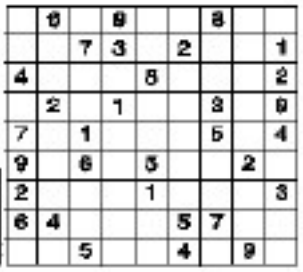


LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



	6		9			8		
		7	3		2			1
4				8				2
	2		1			3		9
7		1				5		4
9		6		3			2	
2				1				3
6	4				5	7		
		5			4		9	

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be arranged to form words or a common theme. Which use the three words, and hence the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

win a 3 day break

Just go! HOLIDAYS

Go to justgoholidays.com/win to request a brochure and a chance to win

or call on 0844 8223460

Closing date Feb 8th 2011 refer to justgoholidays.com/win for T&Cs.

Don't you deserve a break?

Over 750 deal pick up points across the UK. Call now 0844 8223460

Coach tours from just £99.99

Just go! HOLIDAYS

"Nothing to look forward to in 2011?"

Relax!

4 day all inclusive breaks in the UK and Europe from only £99.99pp

Book now 0844 8223460

www.justgoholidays.com

Just go! HOLIDAYS by COACH

Get out more in 2011

Bruno

PLUMBING & HEATING

Specialist in High Efficiency Central Heating

Worcester Bosch Accredited Installer

GREAT VALUE OFFERS FOR 2011

EXAMPLE ONE • Worcester Bosch Greenstar Condensing Combi
• 1 x standard flue • 7 x radiators • 6 x thermostats • Extended Worcester Bosch guarantee
Supply and fully fitted an an unbeatable price of **ONLY £2,895**

EXAMPLE TWO • Back Boiler removal supply and fit one condensing combi, standard flue.
• Choice of five fireplace combinations inc high output gas fire (Living Flame)
all fully fitted for an unbeatable price of **£2,995**

Many More Offers Please Contact Us

Great deals for OAPs on the Warmfront Scheme qualify for a free £300 voucher
Power flushes available from **£295**
Boiler upgrade availablePlease call for your NO OBLIGATION quote

T: 01543 452 653
M: 07702 360 669
E: paul.bruno@talktalk.net

SOON YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE ALL OF OUR OFFERS ONLINE
(Website is now under Construction)

WORCESTER Bosch Group

GAS safe

Colin Firth is outstanding as the star of the King's Speech

Colin Firth delivers the performance of his life

Tears and laughter in Colin's crowning glory

THE KING'S SPEECH (12A)

Cinema

"The British are coming!" famously declared screenwriter Colin Welland in 1982 when he collected his Oscar for Chariots Of Fire.

Nearly 30 years later, his prophecy seems to be coming true.

Slumdog Millionaire was the toast of Tinseltown in 2008, garnering almost every trophy in sight, and now The King's Speech is poised to do the same, and win Colin Firth a well-deserved Academy Award into the bargain.

Last year, the British actor was cruelly denied a golden statuette for his revelatory performance as a suicidal gay lecturer in Tom Ford's directorial debut, A Single Man.

This year, he should definitely practise his self-deprecating acceptance speech for this heartrending portrayal of King George VI in Tom Hooper's majestic comedy drama. On Sunday he picked up the Golden Globe for best actor in the awards given by Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which are seen as a good indicator for the Oscars.

Firth is matched laugh for laugh by Geoffrey Rush in imperious form, and the cream of homegrown acting talent provides illustrious support, including Timothy Spall as Winston Churchill.

The King's Speech is an impeccably crafted chapter from recent British history that charts a remarkable and unlikely friendship between two men from opposite sides of the class divide.

When King George V (Michael Gambon) dies in 1936, eldest son Edward (Guy Pearce) ascends to the throne, but his reign is shrouded in scandal as he continues to romance American divorcee, Wallis Simpson (Eve Best).

Love triumphs over duty and Edward abdicates, forcing youngest son Albert (Firth) into the spotlight.

However, the newly crowned King George VI suffers from a crippling stammer, which renders him unable to deliver public addresses.

With war imminent and the country looking to its King for leadership, Queen Elizabeth (Helana Bonham Carter) approaches unconventional Australian-born speech therapist Lionel Logue (Rush) on the recommendation of a friend.

"She said your antipodean methods were both unconventional and controversial. Those are two of my favourite words," smiles Elizabeth, persuading Lionel to help her husband overcome his fears.

The King's Speech is a crowd-pleasing, heart-tugging gem, seen through the eyes of a man who is frightened to say a word for fear of what might – or might not – come out.

David Seidler's script elegantly dissects the relationship between monarch and commoner, creating memorable exchanges that provide the film with huge laughs and a strong emotional heartbeat.

Firth delivers the performance of his life, battling valiantly against his condition, while Rush is hysterical as the linguist who refuses any concessions to his king.

"My castle, my rules," he maintains.

"Their double-act is glorious, including an unforgettable barrage of expletives in the name of therapy.

"Do you know the f word?" asks Lionel.

"F. . . f. . . fornication?" replies Albert nervously.

The finale is guaranteed to have audiences cheering and sobbing with joy.

DVD

Old Celtic magic brings horror into 21st century

OUTCAST – CERT 18

Outcast is a wannabe horror film which draws on ancient Celtic tradition and is set among the modern landscape of a bleak high rise estate somewhere in Edinburgh.

The plot centres around a mysterious mother and son who move into one of the flats and are on the run from a deadly pursuer Cathal, played by a bearded James Nesbitt.

Using an ancient form of magic to keep themselves hidden from their hunter, Irish travellers Mary, played by Kate Dickie and her teenage son, Fergal – Niall Bruton, wind up in the dingy flat.

It seems their only neighbour is a family which includes the streetwise and pretty Petronella, a Scottish/Romany girl played by Hanna Stanbridge who befriends Fergal and finds him an oasis in the tangle of her life coping with her retarded brother and alcoholic mother.

Above Niall Bruton as Fergal with Hanna Stanbridge as Petronella.

Left Cathal, James Nesbitt, uses ancient ritual to hunt his prey.

Mary is extremely protective of her son and for good reason for they hide a secret which when unleashed leaves a trail of dead bodies. She is dedicated to keeping her son out of the clutches of Cathal but now has the added complication of keeping him away from any romantic entanglement with Petronella.

Cathal using his own style of dark magic to hunt his quarry creates panic for Mary and her son as she discovers he is closing in

Problems

Using her own blood and protective symbols around their new home Mary uses all her witch-like powers to keep prying eyes away and to avoid the inevitable showdown with their Van Helsing-style hunter.

One of the problems with this film is it never seems sure of what it is, it's not gory enough and takes itself too seriously to be a slasher movie.

It isn't really scary enough to be a full-blown horror film and doesn't really have enough special effects to be a sci-fi movie.

There are, as you can imagine, the set pieces of the minor characters wondering around the dark concrete landscape just waiting to be attacked.

You have to give it to director Colm McCarthy he does create a menacing arena with his shots of the bleak urban surroundings in which the characters dwell. However, Nesbitt is never fully convincing as the brooding hunter protected by the ancient symbols tattooed into his flesh as he goes on his quest.

He even comes over as a little incompetent as the one thing he is told about leaving a trail he forgets almost immediately.

Outcast doesn't really have the jump factor as a horror film and never really builds the tension high enough to keep you on the edge of your seat.

Outcast out on DVD now.

Danny Farragher

RSA Academy
Transforming learning, transforming lives

Admission Arrangements
2012-2013

The RSA Academy Admission Arrangements for 2012/2013 are now available and open to the public for comments. This is available on the RSA Academy website and Sandwell MBC website, or you can request a copy directly from the RSA Academy.

If you would like to comment on the proposed arrangements, please ensure you do so by Friday 22nd July 2011.

If you would like to pass on your comments or request a copy please contact Rachael Sutton, 0121-556-1351 / sutton.r@rsaacademy.org, or come along the RSA Academy, Bilston Road, Gospel Oak, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 0BZ.

Peace of Mind Matters

A 7 Page Supplement to Help You Plan Ahead

A & A Walters Funeral Directors

Independent since 1850

5TH GENERATION FAMILY OWNED FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Serving All Districts

Horse-Drawn Hearse Specialist

24 Hour Call Out Service

Private Chapels Of Rest

Double Award Winning Sellers of Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funerals

An Independent Family Business

Find Out More

www.waltersfunerals.co.uk

24 hours: 0121 557 1347

Allow our family to care for yours!

The Old Manse, 85 Dudley Road, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 8ED

0121 557 1347 24 Hours

SAIF

Golden Charter Funeral Plans

Small Company With a Big Heart...

G. D. Memorials Ltd are a small company with a big heart, we care about our customers, understand their and in the difficult time that they find themselves in we are there to help and guide them into the right cho memorial and design that will make their loved ones proud.

Our memorials start from the most very basic to the grand memorials of distinction. Any stone, any size can made to order in our factory warehouse. With over forty years experience our skilled craftmen can make, de polish any memorial to perfection that will show your love and devotion to the loved one you are remember

From the very first phone call to the installation of your memorial, we care. Every step of your journey in t troubled times; we are there to guide you and to understand how you want the best memorial to remember s cent loved ones by. Just give us a call and let us show that we care.

Peace of mind

Directing funeral plans to meet family wishes

A funeral director tailors a service to meet the family's wishes and to comply with the law.

To follow is a guide to the kind of support and range of services you can expect from your chosen funeral director.

After discussing your requirements, the funeral director will take detailed instructions concerning the services and facilities to be provided and then act to ensure the funeral is dignified and that all aspects are delivered to the highest professional standards.

It is important to emphasise that the services outlined below will not always be provided automatically and this list is by no means exhaustive but, typically, funeral directors will:

- Arrange a date and time for the funeral, according to your instructions. The funeral director will contact the church, cemetery or crematorium and/or the person who will be conducting the service, to arrange a mutually convenient date and time.
- Provide facilities for viewing of the deceased prior to the funeral, according to the family's wishes.
- Provide the necessary vehicles and staff to conduct the funeral with dignity and professionalism, in accordance with your instructions.
- Deal with all necessary paperwork to enable burial or cremation to take place.
- Place death notices in local and/or national newspapers.
- Arrange for catering at a venue of your choice following the funeral.
- Make arrangements for the subsequent disposal of the remains following a cremation.
- Arrange special musical requests for the funeral service, such as a soloist, piper or choir.
- Liaise with the officiant to provide order of service sheets at the funeral service.
- Record the names of those attending the funeral in order to provide you with a list afterwards.
- Order floral tributes on behalf of the deceased's family and/or friends and colleagues.
- Accept and care for floral tributes delivered to their premises prior to the funeral.
- Accept donations for a nominated charity in lieu of flowers on your behalf, providing the family with a list of those who have donated after the funeral.
- Arrange for transfer of either the deceased or the cremated remains to another area of the country, or repatriation overseas, for a subsequent funeral or disposal, in accordance with your wishes.
- Provide advice and transport to assist with the registration of the death. Please be aware that funeral directors cannot register a death – this is something which must be done by a family member or person closely connected with the deceased.
- Supply obituary cards or 'thank you' cards for use by the family following the funeral service.
- Place "thank you" and acknowledgement notices, or obituary notices in local newspapers following the funeral.
- Provide information on how to arrange a pre-paid funeral plan.
- Offer a choice of coffins and caskets to suit a range of budgets and individual choice.

A funeral director will help you through all the necessary arrangements

Last Will and Testament What happens if you do not have one?

A Will is a legal document which ensures that persons whom you intend to benefit actually do benefit upon your death. It allows you to give specific instructions as to what you want to happen to your estate (i.e. your money, property and other personal possessions) upon your death. If you die without a Will (intestate), your estate will be distributed in accordance with strict rules of law. This may not necessarily reflect your individual wishes or intentions and may leave a trail of misery and potential conflict.

The rules of law relating to the distribution of your estate if you die without having made a Will dictate who will administer your estate and who will benefit (and to what extent they will benefit) from it. For example, if you are survived by a spouse or civil partner and children, the spouse will receive your personal possessions, a sum of £250,000 and the right to receive the income from half of the remaining estate. The other half will pass to the children immediately. You may have wished for your spouse or civil partner to have inherited most of your estate, if not the whole, in order for him/her to maintain their usual standard of living and be adequately provided for. Further, if the estate is large enough, it is possible for an inheritance tax liability to arise since part of the estate passes to the children who, unlike the spouse or civil partner, are not exempt for inheritance tax purposes. The rules make provision to provide for other relatives who may benefit from the estate such as parents, brothers and sisters of the whole blood, brothers and sisters of the half blood, grandparents and even aunts and uncles. If you are not survived by any blood relation, the law is at a loss and so provides that your property passes to the Crown, Duchy of Lancaster or Duchy of Cornwall. It must be noted that these rules do not make any provision for a cohabitee to benefit.

How often do we hear people say that they do not need to make a Will as they feel they do not have much to give? None of us know what we are going to be worth when we die but most of us have a house and some personal possessions; by making a Will, you can ensure that both your home and personal possessions are inherited by people that you wish, thus avoiding conflict and arguments upon your death. Have you ever considered as to what will happen to your children if they are minors and lose both their parents? By making a Will, you can ensure that they are in safe hands by appointing legal guardians for them. This is not a provision that the rules of law, if you die without making a will, cater for.

By simply making a Will, you can also ensure that the administration of your estate and any trusts arising therefrom is handled by a person (or persons) of your choice whom you can trust and is capable of shouldering the responsibility. Otherwise, the law will dictate who is entitled to administer your estate.

A properly drafted Will is the way to finding security, reassurance and peace of mind is to make a Will and ensure that your family members receive what you want them to have upon your death and, depending upon your circumstances, it could also be used to mitigate any potential inheritance tax liability. Most importantly, you stay in control in the making of decisions which affect your financial and family circumstances.

SILKS
SOLICITORS

Expert legal advice you can trust.

Silks for you :
Moving House
- Protecting your future
- In your workplace
- Had an accident
- Personal disputes

Silks for Business :
Commercial Property Services
- Corporate Business Services
- Employment Services
- Commercial Dispute Services

IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY NEEDS LEGAL ADVICE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL SILKS OFFICE

OLDBURY
Barclays Bank Chambers
27 Birmingham Street B69 4DY
Tel: 0121 511 2233

NETHERTON
Personal Injury Office
48-52 Halesowen Road DY2 9QB
Tel 01384 236101

email info@silks-solicitors.co.uk

Peace of mind **Commercial Feature**

Baches Solicitors now provides specialist advice on issues concerning the elderly from wills to welfare benefits

Solicitor and partner Mrs Jennifer Styler, Kay Hubbal and Dorothy Cavanagh are all part of a new department

Planning for the future with sensible legal help

AFTER six months of careful planning, a branch of West Bromwich solicitors has launched a specialist department, catering specifically for the needs of elderly clients.

The new scheme developed by Baches is headed up by solicitor and partner, Mrs Jennifer Styler and provides advice on wills, nursing home fees, powers of attorney, mental incapacity, managing finances, welfare benefits, inheritance tax and anything else that may affect or concern clients.

Jennifer, who has more than 35 years experience in this field says: "Consolidating all our expertise will strengthen the level of service we can provide and also enables us to meet the needs of clients, their families and carers.

"As people get older, dealing with personal affairs becomes more stressful and we hope to put our clients and their families at ease, helping them to get things organised. We are happy to visit clients with mobility problems in their homes and we always attend clients in hospital if necessary."

She adds: "Many people like our no-nonsense approach and how we make legal matters easy to understand."

Affairs

Working with Jennifer is Dorothy Cavanagh who has been advising clients on managing their affairs for more than 20 years.

She is up-to-date on the benefits elderly people are entitled to, has helped many get additional income and also advises clients on ways of reducing potential liability for nursing home fees.

Dorothy explains: "Having an elderly parent myself, I know what problems people can encounter and how to help."

Completing the team is Kay Hubball, in her four years at the branch, Kate has become the expert team member on powers of attorney, court of protection applications and work with vulnerable people.

Kay comments: "Most sensible people have made a will to sort out what they want to happen in the event of their death, but few think about what would happen if they became mentally or physically disabled – sometimes permanently or during a serious illness – and couldn't deal with their monies and estate.

"Dealing with bank and building society accounts can be very difficult if the proper documents aren't in place."

The department has considerable experience of matters that affect the elderly and their families and Baches are on hand to offer expert advice, granting peace of mind during difficult times.

For further information visit the website at www.baches.co.uk or call 0121 553 3286.

The West Bromwich office has been planning the new department for six months and have an experienced team on hand

Call us: 0121 553 3286

Wills, Probate and Elderly Services

In the event of a major life event, such as the death of a relative or simply growing older we have a team of experts able to help you navigate the legal processes.

We are happy to visit clients in their homes and our offices are wheelchair accessible.

FREE 15 minute initial interview call us 0121-553-3286

Baches has a valued reputation, acquired over 150 years, for providing expert legal advice to the community.

Our expertise includes:

- Services for the elderly - powers of attorney and nursing home fees advice
- Wills, trusts and probate
- All aspects of Family Law and Child Care proceedings, Matrimonial disputes including divorce and financial settlements on separation
- Conveyancing - covering all aspects of house moves, residential and commercial property and lease

Baches Solicitors, Lombard House, Cronehills Linkway, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 7PL
Tel: 0121 553 3286 email reception@baches.co.uk

Fact File

COMPANY:
Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell (BUDS)

TYPE OF BUSINESS:
Charity offering people with dementia, and their family carers vital support. Registered charity (no. 1133484) and limited company (no. 06814962)

ESTABLISHED:
2009

CONTACT:
Jamie Crew

LOCATION:
The Buds Centre, 1 Firs Close, Watery Lane, Smethwick, B67 6DQ
Based in Smethwick, but offering services to the whole of the Sandwell Borough (including Smethwick, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Tipton, Oldbury and Rowley Regis)

CALL:
0121 565 3721

EMAIL:
0121 565 3721

WEBSITE:
Under construction

Buddies – experience of caring for someone with dementia? You could be a BUDS buddy

BUDS clubs, run by staff and volunteers, give an opportunity for those affected to socialise

Working close with families for an innovative approach to dementia

THE organisation known as Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell (BUDS) has been running in the borough for two years, offering people with dementia, and their family carers vital support.

Through experience in working with local people, it is now well placed to provide support and information where it is needed.

This is done by offering:

- weekly BUDS Clubs at various venues
- befriending and sitting service in people's own homes
- support for family carers, including advice about dementia and the way forward
- dementia awareness sessions in the community
- volunteer training programme

BUDS approach is to work closely with people with dementia and their families, taking a positive attitude towards the future, where the person comes first and the condition second.

The BUDS Clubs

These can offer the opportunity for people with dementia to socialise, receive support and to take part in stimulating activities.

Carers and family members are welcome, as these groups provide a great support network for them, or can offer them the chance for a few hours respite from the caring role.

Clubs are co-ordinated by BUDS staff, volunteers, in partnership with staff from Sandwell Mental Health team. Refreshments and lunch are also available.

Befriending and Sitting

This can offer a weekly visit from a volunteer to a person with dementia and their family carers. It has found this fulfils a number of positive changes.

It can offer the family carers a regular break if they want to go out for a few hours, or get on with other tasks in the house knowing that someone is sitting with their loved one.

It can also give the family carer someone else to talk to and confide in, and can offer stimulation for the person with dementia themselves.

BUDS work with the individual families to see which approach is right for them and has found that many carers greatly value short breaks on a regular basis as this has previously been hard to find.

Sometimes, particularly in the early stages, people with dementia live on their own but families are still heavily involved and visit every day. The service can give them a break from visiting.

Carer Support

BUDS is flexible with its approach to offering support as carers have a variety of other commitments.

The service offers information and support to family carers of people with dementia. Support is delivered in various ways, including one-to-one chats over a cuppa, or over the phone.

This service is provided by fully trained and experienced volunteers. Carers can also be supported as part of the befriending and clubs as mentioned prior.

Volunteers

All of this is only possible with an army of enthusiastic and experienced volunteers.

These are people of all ages and walks of life who have a few hours to spare but above all want to make a real difference to people's lives. BUDS offer innovative training and support and social events.

The project is supported financially by Harborne Parish Lands Charity, by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, from various charitable trusts and by kind donations by carers and other individuals.

To learn more about the project, contact Jamie Crew at The BUDS Centre, Harborne Parish Lands Charity, 1 Firs Close, Watery Lane, Smethwick. B67 6DQ or email: info@buds.co.uk

Telephone 0121 565 3721 for more detailed information.

Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell

- **BUDS fosters a positive attitude towards dementia**
- **BUDS believes the person comes first and the dementia second**
- **Supporting the whole family is vital**
- **People with dementia can still have quality of life**
- **We look for volunteers who will be passionate about what they do**
- **Information about the condition is important at an early stage**

buds
Better Understanding of Dementia for Sandwell

We are based at:
The BUDS Centre, 1 Firs Close, Watery Lane, Smethwick B67 6DQ

Tel: 0121 565 3721
Fax: 0121 565 3721
Mobile: 07791 575529
Email: info@buds.co.uk

Peace of mind **Commercial Feature**

Pretty Harborne cottages, Smethwick, built in 1927

One of the scheme's – Firs Close residents enjoy the sunshine in the communal garden

Ladies at Larksfield – 10 one-bed flats with a visiting support worker and caretaker

Maintaining your independence

Fact File

COMPANY:
Harborne Parish Lands Charity

TYPE OF BUSINESS:
Sheltered housing for people people aged over 55 or people with disabilities living within the parish of Harborne, helping local people maintain their independence

ESTABLISHED:
1623

CONTACT:
Denise Maguire

LOCATION:
Harborne Parish Lands Charity, 109 Court Oak Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9AA

CALL:
0121 426 1600

WEBSITE:
www.harborneparishlandscharity.org.uk

HARBORNE Parish Lands Charity (HPLC) was founded 400 years ago as a local charity to help people in need who live in the ancient Parish of Harborne.

Today it provides sheltered housing, mainly for people aged over 55 or people with disabilities who live within the charity's area, which includes Harborne and Smethwick and parts of Quinton and Bearwood.

Sheltered housing helps people maintain their independence for as long as possible.

Its aim is to provide convenient and comfortable accommodation in a setting which allows residents to come and go as they please with the added security of having someone to call on in an emergency.

Residents are encouraged to make friends and to share a wider social life through use of a communal lounge and other shared facilities.

HPLC can provide a home for those wanting just a little help as well as those who may benefit from extra support.

It offers a safe and secure environment with an active social life for those who want it including bingo, coffee mornings, afternoon teas and other activities.

So, if you're worried about looking after the garden or the maintenance of your home, this could be the solution.

You are eligible if you live in Smethwick, Harborne or parts of Quinton and Bearwood.

Consideration can also be given to people who live outside these areas in certain circumstances.

Applicants should be aged over 55 or have limited mobility, have a below average income and have savings of less than £150,000 (including value of property). The Charity's schemes include:

Firs Close: built in 1991, opposite Smethwick Council House, it has 33 self-contained flats, each with its own front door.

Every flat has a double bedroom with plenty of storage space, a sitting room, kitchen and shower room.

Support is provided by the scheme manager who is on site five days a week from 9am to 5pm. In addition there are pull cords in every room.

Facilities include lifts, a laundry, guest flat, an enclosed garden and a community room.

The flats are fully electric and a cooker and fridge-freezer are provided.

Harborne House: a similar scheme to that in Firs Close, Harborne House, Harborne, has 31 one-bedroom flats and one two-bedroomed flat and was built around 1980.

There are two community rooms, two lifts, guest accommodation and two laundries.

There is an on-site caretaker and the support worker visits vulnerable residents every day.

Harborne Cottages: situated in Smethwick, this pretty scheme has 16 cottages (with a communal room and two laundries) and was built in 1927 around a central lawn. The HPLC support worker visits five days a week.

Larksfield: also in Smethwick, this was built in 1996 with a lift and consists of 10 sunny one-bedroomed flats including four flats suitable for wheelchair users.

The Support Worker visits daily. The ground floor flats have French windows that open directly onto the garden.

Dore House: this property in Harborne was converted in 1996 from an old house into six one-bedroomed flats with a lift, with a visiting support worker and caretaker.

YOUR LOCAL SHELTERED HOUSING PROVIDER

Harborne Parish Lands Charity
Providing a service for those in need

HPLC has been providing sheltered housing for local people in need for 400 years and is proud of its reputation as a caring organisation. We provide a friendly and personal service in a warm and secure environment. Easy weekly payments include heating and water so you need never feel cold again!

All our flats have their own front door and are spacious so couples as well as single people can apply. A cooker and fridge freezer are provided in the kitchen. Most schemes include a communal lounge, lift and a laundry and shared gardens.

A Scheme Manager or a Caretaker is usually on site during office hours and a Support Worker visits more vulnerable residents daily. There are pull cords in every room so that residents can speak to someone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year if there is an emergency

For more information contact us:
Email: theclerk@hplc.fednet.org.uk
Write: HPLC, 109 Court Oak Road, Birmingham B17 9AA
Website: www.harborneparishlandscharity.org

0121 426 1600

davisons SOLICITORS

2011

MAKE this the Year you **Make** (or Review) your Property, Financial and Legal Affairs. All property owners should consider a Will and a Power of Attorney

For:

- **Certainty** and peace of mind for your family and/or business
- **Tax considerations,** not having a Will can lead to unnecessary tax bills and stresses
- **Your partner's sake** - If you are not married or a registered civil partner. Partners do not automatically inherit when there is no Will.
- **Powers of Attorney,** deal with safeguarding your future now

We also offer the following:

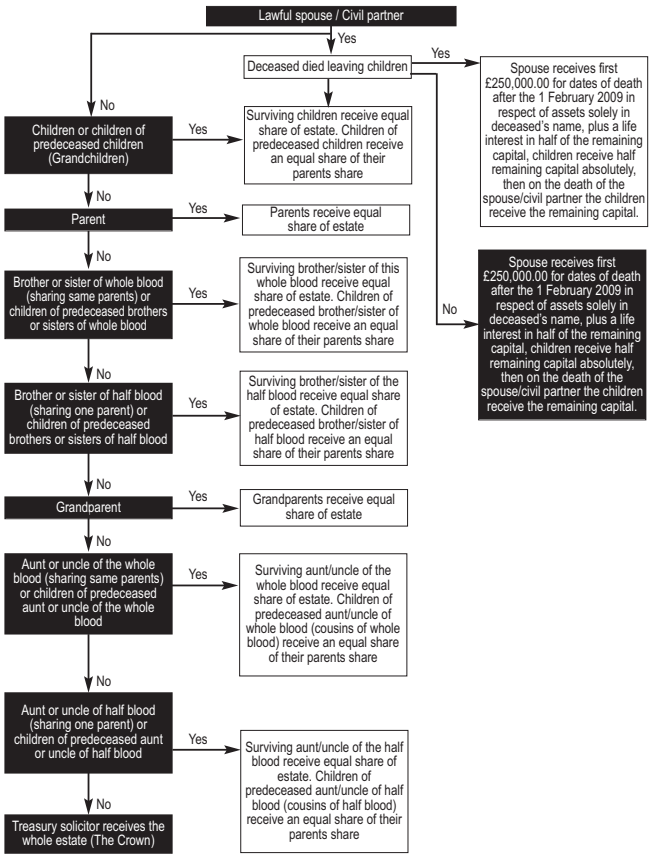
1 A free half hour appointment to discuss any Matrimonial or Litigation needs
2 Probate and Estate Administration expertise
3 Attending to your Conveyancing needs, including buying, selling or transferring a property, we will give you a written quotation

CALL YOUR LOCAL SOLICITORS TODAY
WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Davisons Solicitors
Four Oaks
254 Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield B74 2UH
Telephone: 0121 323 2525
www.davisonsolicitors.co.uk

HER MAJESTY'S COURTS SERVICE hmcs

Who survived the deceased?



Peace of mind

Where there's a will, then there is most likely a way

A WILL is a legal document which ensures that persons whom you intend to benefit actually do benefit upon your death.

It allows you to give specific instructions as to what you want to happen to your estate (for example your money, property and other personal possessions) upon your death.

If you die without a will (intestate), your estate will be distributed in accordance with strict rules of law.

Ensure that your wishes are followed by creating a legally binding will

Estate

This may not necessarily reflect your individual wishes or intentions and may leave a trail of misery and potential conflict.

The rules of law relating to the distribution of your estate if you die without having made a will dictate who will administer your estate and who will benefit (and to what extent they will benefit) from it.

For example, if you are survived by a spouse or civil partner and children, the spouse will receive your personal possessions, a sum of £250,000 and the right to receive the income from half of the remaining estate.

The other half will pass to the children immediately.

You may have wished for your spouse or civil partner to have inherited most of your estate, if not the whole, in order for him/her to maintain their usual standard of living and be adequately provided for.

Further, if the estate is large enough, it is possible for an inheritance tax liability to arise since part of the estate passes to the children who, unlike the spouse or civil partner, are not exempt for inheritance tax purposes.

The rules make provision to provide for other relatives who may benefit from the estate such as parents, brothers and sisters of the whole blood, brothers and sisters of the half blood, grandparents and even aunts and uncles.

If you are not survived by any blood relation, the law is at a loss and so provides that your property passes to the Crown, Duchy of Lancaster or Duchy of Cornwall. It must be noted that these rules do not make any provision for a cohabitee to benefit.

Personal

How often do we hear people say that they do not need to make a will as they feel they do not have much to give?

None of us know what we are going to be worth when we die but most of us have a house and some personal possessions; by making a will, you can ensure that both your home and personal possessions are inherited by people who you wish, thus avoiding conflict and arguments upon your death. Have you ever considered what will happen to your children if they are minors and lose both their parents?

By making a will, you can ensure that they are in safe hands by appointing legal guardians for them. This is not a provision that the rules of law, if you die without making a will, cater for.

By simply making a will, you can also ensure that the administration of your estate and any trusts arising therefrom is handled by a person (or persons) of your choice whom you can trust and is capable of shouldering the responsibility.

Otherwise, the law will dictate who is entitled to administer your estate.

A properly drafted will is the way to finding security, reassurance and peace of mind and ensure that your family members receive what you want them to have upon your death and, depending upon your circumstances, it could also be used to mitigate any potential inheritance tax liability.

Most importantly, you stay in control making decisions which affect your financial and family circumstances.

Dealing with loss is a slow process

BEREAVEMENT is a distressing but common experience. Sooner or later most of us will suffer the death of someone we love.

Yet in our everyday life we think and talk about death very little.

We grieve after any sort of loss, but most powerfully after the death of someone we love.

It is not just one feeling, but a whole succession of feelings, which take a while to get through and which cannot be hurried.

In the few hours or days following the death of a close relative or friend, most people feel simply stunned, as though they cannot believe it has actually happened. They may feel like this even if the death has been expected.

This sense of emotional numbness can be a help in getting through all the important practical arrangements that have to be made, such as getting in touch with relatives and organising the funeral. However, this feeling of unreality may become a problem if it goes on too long. Seeing the body of the dead person may, for some, be an important way of beginning to overcome this.

Similarly, for many people, the funeral or memorial service is an occasion when the reality of what has happened really starts to sink in. It may be distressing to see the body or attend the funeral, but these are ways of saying goodbye to those we love. At the time, these things may seem too painful to go through and so are not done. However, this can lead to a sense of deep regret in future years.

Numbness

Soon though, this numbness disappears and may be replaced by a dreadful sense of agitation, of pining or yearning for the dead person. There is a feeling of wanting somehow to find them, even though this is clearly impossible. This makes it difficult to relax or concentrate and it may be difficult to sleep properly. Dreams can be very upsetting.

Bereavement counselling helps many people come to terms with loss

Some people feel that they 'see' their loved one everywhere they go –in the street, the park, around the house, anywhere they had spent time together.

People often feel very angry at this time – towards doctors and nurses who were unable to prevent the death, towards friends and relatives who did not do enough, or even towards the person who has, by dying, left them.

Another common feeling is guilt. People find themselves going over in their minds all the things they would have liked to have said or done. They may even consider what they could have done differently that might have prevented the death. Of course, death is usually beyond anyone's control and a bereaved person may need to be reminded of this.

Some people may feel guilty if they feel relieved that their loved one has died after a painful or distressing illness. This feeling of relief is natural, understandable and very common. This state of agitation is usually strongest about two weeks after the death, but is soon followed by quiet sadness or withdrawal, depression and silence. These sudden changes of emotion can be confusing to friends or relatives, but are part of the normal process of grief.

Other people may find it difficult to understand or be embarrassed when the bereaved person suddenly bursts into tears for no obvious reason.

At this stage it may be tempting to keep away from other people who do not fully understand or share the grief. However, avoiding others can store up trouble for the future.

During this time, it may appear to others as though the bereaved person is spending a lot of time just sitting, doing nothing.

Essential

In fact, they are usually thinking about the person they have lost, going over again and again both the good times and the bad.

This is a quiet, but essential part of coming to terms with the death.

As time passes, the fierce pain of early bereavement begins to fade. The depression lessens and it is possible to think about other things.

CHARITY FEATURE

Marie Curie Cancer Care
Devoted to Life

PROVIDING CARE FOR TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS

Marie Curie Cancer Care was established in 1948 - the same year as the NHS.

More than 2,700 nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals help provide care for terminally ill patients in the community and in our hospices, along with support for their families.

This year we expect to provide care to around 29,000 people with cancer and other terminal illnesses.

MARIE CURIE NURSES

Research commissioned by Marie Curie Cancer Care shows that 65 per cent of people would choose to die at home. In reality, only 25 per cent achieve this.

Every year, Marie Curie Nurses make that wish possible for thousands of people with terminal cancer and other illnesses across the UK.

Our nurses now care for around 50 per cent of all cancer patients who die at home. They work through the night or during the day to provide care for patients in the comfortable and familiar surroundings of their own home.

They also provide practical and emotional support for carers and families at what can be an exhausting time. Marie Curie Nursing is always free of charge to patients and carers.

MARIE CURIE HOSPICES

We have nine Marie Curie Hospices across the UK.

Each hospice offers specialist support in a relaxed, friendly and comfortable environment and no charge is ever made to patients or their families.

We provide the largest number of hospice beds outside the NHS. Voluntary contributions, together with statutory government funding, are essential to continue providing these vital services.

WE NEED TO RAISE £9,212 EVERY HOUR OF EVERY DAY TO CARRY ON OUR WORK

Marie Curie has 2,000 nurses in the UK and last year they worked for 1,200,000 hours caring for terminally ill patients, including half of all cancer patients who die at home.

We also have nine hospices and are the biggest provider of hospice beds outside the NHS. In total, Marie Curie spends over £80 million a year on providing care as well as on research and development. The figure is overwhelming, but so is the comfort that the money can provide.

PLEASE KEEP HELPING US TO HELP EVEN MORE PEOPLE. THANK YOU.

Everyone should have the right to choose how they spend their last days. Support us with a donation and help make a real difference to the lives of terminally ill people.

You can also donate by phone on
0800 716 146

107 MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHY
Weddings (inc. Asian/Indian)
Birthdays, Christenings and other occasions
info@107media.co.uk
www.107media.co.uk
07871 211140

JONDOR INTERIORS
Kitchens • Bedrooms • Bathrooms
12 Kingsway Road,
Wolverhampton WV10 0SD
01902 733305

Tyrex Auto Services Ltd
Tyre and Exhaust Discount Warehouse
Part Worn and New Tyres in Stock All Sizes Supplied and Fitted
Century Industrial Estate
Unit 6,
Shady Lane
Birmingham
B44 9ER
Open to Trade And Public Inclusive
0121 366 6613
Freephone: 0800 0742902

MAN WITH A VAN
Light Removals or Single Items undertaken
7 days • any distance
Reliable, *reasonable* rates
Call Geoff
0121 370 5980
07870 411490

JONDOR INTERIORS
Kitchens • Bedrooms • Bathrooms
137 Park Lane, Wednesbury WS10 9RZ
01902 733305

UK PLASTICS
• Heating • UPVC Doors
• Fascias & Guttering
Unit 4, Priory Business Park,
Aston Hall Road, B6 7LA
0121 328 8742

BLOOMING LUVLY
Flowers For All Occasions
271 Bristnall Hall Road, Oldbury B68 9NF
0121 544 5352

F.R. Bastable & Son
Suppliers of quality automotive components to both the trade and retail.
Old fashioned customer service and many years of experience backed by competitive pricing and a large stock holding.
Call us today for an instant quote on your requirements!
- Batteries (with 3 year guarantee!)
- Clutches
- Service Spares
- Braking Components
- Oil & Fluids
- Starters and Alternators
- Steering and Suspension Parts
- Electrical Spares
- Cooling Components
- Wiper Blades
- Paint & Bodyshop Supplies
- Key Cutting
- Number Plates
- Plus lots, lots more!

Telephone: 0121 552 2851
Open 7 days a week
33-35 Langley High Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 4SN

C & T DOORS & WINDOWS LTD
Sale Now On
All areas covered
07759 536818
01902 842706

ROSKELL DAVIES & CO.
661 - 665 Kingstanding Road,
Birmingham, West Midlands B44 9RH
0121 354 1515

LION FARM ACTION CENTRE
We provide: Adult Training Advice and Guidance, *plus much more*
Harry Price House, Hartlebury Rd, Oldbury B69 1EQ
Email: lionfarmactioncentre@yahoo.co.uk
www.lionfarmactioncentre.co.uk
0121 544 3094
Fax: 0121 544 3095

STEAMY WINDOWS
Windows and Door Repairs
Misty Units and Broken Glass Repairs
24 hours • 7 days
EMERGENCY REPAIRS
FREE QUOTES
Call Ryan on
07758 356445

A.J.N. VEHICLE SERVICES
MOT and Service Centre
MOTs £30 No retest fee
Interim Service and MOT from £75 plus VAT
SERVICE AND REPAIRS FOR ALL MAKES AND MODELS
0121 520 8003
Unit 30, Bridge Road, Tollend, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 0HR

GREY ROSE PRODUCTS
Gate and Fencing
Made to your specifications
Bloomsfield Rd,
Princess End, Tipton DY4 9ET
0121 520 2422

UK PLASTICS
• Heating • UPVC Doors
• Fascias & Guttering
Unit 4, Priory Business Park,
Aston Hall Road, B6 7LA
0121 328 8742

SNS WINDOW LTD
Manufacturers of UPVC Windows, Door, Patios and Conservatories
FRONT DOORS *fully fitted* £460
0121 553 7706

IDENTITY
LADIES & GENTS HAIRDRESSING
We stock a wide range of Bedhead products
292 Throne Road, Rowley Regis B65 9JS
www.salonidentity.co.uk
0121 561 3155

Wedding Reception VAT Freeze
Book before 31st March, 2011
Great Barr Hotel
0121 357 1141
Pear Tree Drive, Great Barr,
Birmingham, B43 6HS
www.thegreatbarrhotel.com
Join us on facebook

UK PLASTICS
• Heating • UPVC Doors
• Fascias & Guttering
Unit 4, Priory Business Park,
Aston Hall Road, B6 7LA
0121 328 8742

SUSAN'S HAIRDRESSING
Perms *from* £15 • Hi-Lites *from* £15
Full Head Colour *from* £15
Blow Wave from £5
69 High Street, West Bromwich B70 6NZ
0121 553 0914

Home of Property
connecting people with property
homeofproperty.co.uk

The top property guide for West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Tipton and Smethwick

WANTED
by
BIGWOOD
CHARTERED SURVEYORS
incorporating BOND WOLFE AUCTIONS
Properties for Auction
Immediate Exchange of Contracts
Completion within 28 days
For A Free No Obligation
Auction Appraisal
Telephone
Ron Darlington
07830 375 823
or (0121) 456 8800

Edwardian semi for £119,950

Number 116 Titford Road, Oldbury, may well suit a first time buyer

The front room features a flame-effect gas fire with marble insert and matching raised marble hearth

The master bedroom has a cast iron fireplace, ceiling rose, picture rail and original wooden flooring

OFFERS in the region of £119,950 are being sought for an exceptionally well maintained and improved two-bedroomed Edwardian semi-detached property in Oldbury.

Number 116 Titford Road is, according to the selling agent Tom Giles & Co, the ideal purchase for a first-time buyer.

The house has an inner hallway dining room, galley kitchen, conservatory, lobby, shower room, landscaped rear garden, gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing.

A hardwood entrance door leads into the 11ft 11in x 13ft 6in front room, which features a living flame coal effect gas fire with marble insert and matching raised marble hearth, ceiling coving and rose and laminate flooring. An inner hall has an understairs storage cupboard while the dining room includes paster ceiling coving and rose and a connecting part-glazed door leading to the kitchen. There's a range of oak-faced wall, base and drawer units, plumbing for a washing machine, gas cooker point, rolled-edge worksurfaces, inset one-and-a-half bowl stainless steel sink unit and mixer tap, space for upright fridge freezer and slate-effect tiled flooring.

A part-glazed stable door leads to the conservatory, which has laminate flooring and part double-glazed French doors to the rear garden.

The lobby features a base storage unit with worksurface over while the fully-tiled shower room comprises a corner shower cubicle with part-frosted shower screens, electric shower, wall-mounted wash basin, WC and extractor fan.

Upstairs, features of the 12ft x 11ft 5in main bedroom include a cast iron fireplace, ceiling rose, picture rail and stained original wooden flooring. There's also a further bedroom and a bathroom, which includes a white suite comprising a pine panelled bath with Victorian taps and shower attachment, wash basin inset into a pine vanity unit, WC, extractor fan and laminate flooring.

The enclosed landscaped rear garden has a slabbed patio, tap, brick-built stores, patio, shed, mature shrubs and seasonal plants.

For more information or to arrange a viewing, contact 0121 552 6171.

HERITAGE GARDENS, UPPER CHURCH LANE, TIPTON, WEST MIDLANDS DY4 9PA

Old is cold!

A brand new Redrow home is warm, inviting and affordable!

The New Heritage Collection

When it comes to better efficiency and lower energy bills you can't beat a new Redrow home. Located close to the centre of Tipton and just 0.3 miles from the station, Heritage Gardens offers a wide choice of superbly specified, traditional-looking homes.

A selection of stunning three and four bedroom homes from as little as £174,995
Marketing Suite & Showhome open daily 10.00am - 5.30pm. Call: 0121 557 3881

A NEW REDROW HOME MEANS NO DRAUGHTS OR FROZEN PIPES, PLUS A 10 YEAR WARRANTY!

redrow.co.uk

Traditional homes, built the way you remember

REDROW HOMES

*Details and price correct at print. Photography indicative only.

Cottons
CHARTERED SURVEYORS

ADDRESS
361 Hagley Road,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham,
B17 8DL

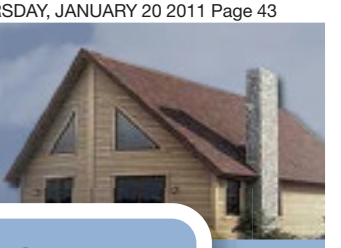
TELEPHONE
Lettings:
0121 247 2299
Auction:
0121 247 2233
Sales:
0121 247 4747

WEBSITE
www.cottons.co.uk
EMAIL
auctions
@cottons.co.uk
property
@cottons.co.uk

ARLA
ARMA
RICS

Property Auction

Cottons The Property Specialists



We are Now Inviting Lots for our

Next Auction

on Thursday 17th February 2011

For Your **FREE** Valuation with no obligation or to request a **FREE** Catalogue

Call 0121 247 2233

or email auctions@cottons.co.uk

www.cottons.co.uk

For advice on any aspect of buying or selling at Auction, call our friendly and professional Auction Team

Scriven & Co.

Chartered Valuation Surveyors and Estate Agents

0121 422 4011

www.scriven.co.uk

team
www.teamproa.co.uk

SALES & LETTINGS. Applicants waiting for properties in Quinton, Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Oakham, Halesowen and Cradley Heath

STOURBRIDGE

18 The Woodlands
* Detached modern bungalow residence
* 3 bedrooms(master with ensuite)
* UPVC double glazed windows
* Gas boiler/radiator heating
* Large lounge
* Double garage
* Fitted kitchen with appliances

Monthly rent of £850

HALESOWEN

35 Westbourne Road
* Semi detached house
* 3 bedrooms
* some spec double glazing
* gas boiler radiator heating
* recently re roofed
* gardens and car space

Monthly rent of £565

HALESOWEN

Long Lane
FORMER CHURCH AND ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION TOGETHER WITH CARETAKER'S HOUSE OCCUPYING A PROMINENT MAIN ROAD POSITION. The site area is 1,800 sq.m. or thereabouts.
The premises comprise a Church which was erected approximately 100 years ago together with extensions at ground and first floor levels. In addition there is a detached caretaker's house.

Offers in the region of £425,000

HALESOWEN

Carters Lane
* Spacious detached house
* 3/4 bedrooms (master ensuite)
* Lounge & study
* Kitchen & breakfast room
* Sitting room & dining room
* Must be viewed!

Offers in the region of £375,000

OLDBURY

Wolverhampton Road
* Traditional style semi-detached house
* Two reception rooms
* Three bedrooms
* Good-sized rear garden
* No upward chain

Offers in the region of £165,000

HALESOWEN

Huntingtree Road
* Mid terrace house
* Four bedrooms
* Large living room
* Extended dining room
* Refitted kitchen
* Ground floor WC

Offers in the region of £159,950

STOURBRIDGE Hagley

Birmingham Road
* First floor flat in period property
* Two bedrooms
* L-shaped living/dining room
* Refitted bathroom
* Kitchen with oven & hob
* Entrance hall with intercom

Offers in the region of £139,950

ROWLEY REGIS

Plot 3 26 Bell End
* New detached bungalow
* Two bedrooms
* Large enclosed garden to rear
* Principal bed with en-suite
* Kitchen with built in appliances
* Excellent specification

Monthly rent of £550

DUDLEY Netherton

21 Cradley Road
* Modern end terrace house
* 2 bedrooms
* Kitchen with appliances
* Bathroom with shower
* GCH & DG windows
* Car space
* Available from 16/01/11!

Monthly rent of £525

TIPTON

2 Wades Close
* Ground floor apartment
* Open plan lounge/ fitted kitchen
* Appliances
* Gas central heating
* Double glazing to windows
* Garage
* Available from 18/01/11!

Monthly rent of £395

OLDBURY

Parsons Hill
* Traditional style semi
* Three bedrooms
* Two reception rooms
* Kitchen extension
* Extensive garden
* Double glazed windows

Offers in the region of £135,000

HALESOWEN

Hurst Green Road
* Traditional style semi
* Three bedrooms
* Lounge & dining room
* Extensive garden
* Gas boiler heating radiators
* Ideal first time purchase

£125,000

HALESOWEN

Westbourne Road
* Semi detached house
* Three bedrooms
* Requires improvement
* Great potential
* Pleasant garden
* Off road parking

Offers in the region of £108,500

OLDBURY

Bodenham Road
* Spacious three storey house
* Three good-sized bedrooms
* In need of some improvement/ upgrading
* Double glazing where specified

Offers in the region of £105,000

HALESOWEN

72 Stourbridge Road
* Ground floor flat
* One bedroom
* Shower room
* Electric heating
* D/G windows
* Car space
* Close to Halesowen Town Centre

Monthly rent of £390

CRADLEY HEATH

Flat 9 Chartwell Grange 441 Halesowen Road
* Self contained flat
* one bedroom
* upvc double glazing to windows
* electric heating
* communal car parking area

Monthly rent of £385

CRADLEY HEATH

32 Spinners End Drive
* Self contained ground floor flat
* One bedroom
* Living room with electric fire
* Kitchen with oven, hob & hood
* Bathroom
* DG windows & Night storage heating
* Available now!

Monthly rent of £385

Estate House, 521 Hagley Road West, Quinton, Birmingham B32 1AD

www.skitts.net

January Sale Properties

JAN SALE

COSELEY
IVYHOUSE LANE
★ Recently built four bedroom modern detached property plus 2/3 bed detached
★ bungalow ideal for dependent relative or business use
★ Two reception rooms
WAS £550,000 NOW £525,000

JAN SALE

WEST BROMWICH
BUSTLEHOLME LANE
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge
★ Dining kitchen
★ Conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Side and rear gardens
WAS £174,995 NOW £169,995

JAN SALE

OLDBURY
SALOP STREET
★ Three bedroom detached
★ Lounge
★ Dining kitchen
★ Downstairs WC
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Rear garden
WAS £164,995 NOW £159,995

JAN SALE

OLDBURY
ALBION STREET
★ Newly built semi detached
★ Three bedrooms
★ Downstairs cloakroom
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ En suite to master bedrooms
★ Garage
★ Off road parking
WAS £155,000 NOW £149,995

JAN SALE

TIPTON
WAKE GREEN ROAD
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Two reception rooms
★ Family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garge and off road parking
★ Rear garden
★ In need of modernisation
WAS £144,950 NOW £139,950

JAN SALE

TIPTON
BEVERSTON ROAD
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, kitchen diner and utility
★ Conservatory
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Off road parking and rear garden
WAS £144,950 NOW £139,950

JAN SALE

TIPTON
POWIS AVENUE
★ Extended three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge/dining room
★ Conservatory
★ Extended kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Rear garden
WAS £144,950 NOW £139,950

JAN SALE

TIPTON
PORTFIELD DRIVE
★ Modern three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge and dining room
★ Kitchen and conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking for several vehicles and garage
★ Side and rear gardens
WAS £139,995 NOW £135,000

JAN SALE

TIPTON
SEFTON GROVE
★ Two bedroom modern detached
★ One reception room and kitchen diner
★ Recently refitted shower room
★ Car port and off road parking
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Rear garden
WAS £124,995 NOW £120,000

JAN SALE

TIPTON
WOOD STREET
★ Three bedroom detached house
★ Lounge diner
★ Recently refurbished bathroom and kitchen
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Rear garden
★ No upward chain
WAS £125,000 NOW £119,995

JAN SALE

TIPTON
HIGHFIELD ROAD
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge/diner, kitchen, conservatory
★ Double glazed and central heating (where spec)
★ Driveway and rear garden
★ Alarmed
WAS £115,995 NOW £110,000

JAN SALE

WEST BROMWICH
WHITGREAVE STREET
★ Three bedroom mid terrace
★ Extended lounge
★ Dining room
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Rear Garden
WAS £124,995 NOW £110,000

JAN SALE

TIPTON
STELLA ROAD
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Two reception rooms
★ Upstairs family bathwith and separate WC
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Rear garden
WAS £112,500 NOW £109,995

JAN SALE

TIPTON
EDWARD FISHER DRIVE
★ Two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Front and rear gardens
★ Off road parking
★ Viewing via Tipton 0121-520-2255
WAS £118,995 NOW £109,995

JAN SALE

TIPTON
SOLLY GROVE
★ Two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Further land to the rear
WAS £99,995 NOW £97,500

JAN SALE

TIPTON
TUDOR STREET
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge and kitchen
★ Ground floor shower room
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage
★ Rear garden
WAS £104,950 NOW £94,995

JAN SALE

OLDBURY
PINFOLD STREET
★ Modern two bedroom second floor flat
★ Lounge and kitchen
★ Bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Parking
★ Landscaped gardens
WAS £97,000 NOW £89,995

JAN SALE

OLDBURY
WESTGATE
★ Three bedroom mid townhouse
★ Through lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Downstairs WC
★ Double glazing and central heating (where specified)
★ Front and rear gardens
WAS £92,000 NOW £89,995

JAN SALE

OLDBURY
BRADES ROAD
★ Top floor two bedroom apartment
★ Lounge and dining area
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Double glazing and storate heating (where specified)
★ Allocated parking
WAS £79,995 NOW £75,000

JAN SALE

TIPTON
OAK CLOSE
★ One bedroom first floor flat
★ Lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Bedroom and bathroom
★ Double glazing (where specified)
★ Communal parking
★ Communal gardens
★ Garage
WAS £67,995 NOW £64,995

TIPTON
ADDENBROOK WAY
★ Modern four bedroom detached
★ Lounge, dining room, kitchen with utility area
★ Downstairs WC, en suite to master bedroom
★ Family bathroom
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens
£199,995

TIPTON
PUPPY GREEN
★ Three bedroom detached house
★ Through lounge/dining room
★ Refitted downstairs WC, upstairs bathroom and en suite
★ Breakfast kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and block paved driveway
£174,950

TIPTON
DIANE CLOSE
★ Extended three bedroom detached on corner plot
★ Lounge/dining room
★ Sitting room and study/bedroom four
★ Extended kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Black paved driveway for several vehicles and garage
£167,500

JAN SALE

TIPTON
BARTLETT CLOSE
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge and dining room
★ Kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and concrete print driveway
★ Rear garden
Was £128,995 Now £124,500

Tipton
0121 520 2255

Wednesbury
0121 505 1818

Bilston
01902 353578

Willenhall
01902 631151

Wolverhampton
01902 732324

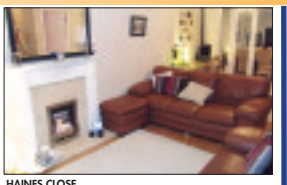
Sedgley
01902 686868

rightmove.co.uk
The UK's number one property website

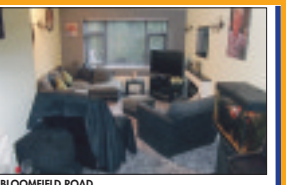
www.skitts.net

TIPTON
DOUGHTY CLOSE
★ Modern four bedroom detached on corner plot
★ Lounge with dining area and kitchen with utility area
★ Cloakroom, bathroom and en suite
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Central heating double glazing (where specified)
£214,995

TIPTON FARMER WAY
★ Four bedroom detached property
★ Lounge, dining room and conservatory
★ Kitchen
★ Downstairs WC and family bathroom
★ Garage and driveway
★ Rear garden
£189,995



TIPTON HAINES CLOSE
★ Modern three bedroom detached
★ Lounge/diner, Conservatory
★ Downstairs WC, en suite to master bedroom
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Double glazing and central heating (where specified)
★ Rear garden
£163,500



TIPTON BLOOMFIELD ROAD
★ Three bedroom detached
★ Through lounge/dining room
★ Kitchen, storage/utility room
★ Downstairs WC ★ Garage with electric doors
★ Driveway with parking for several vehicles
★ Rear garden
£154,995

TIPTON
ANCHOR DRIVE
★ Modern three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ En suite to master bedroom
★ Driveway
★ Rear garden
£147,500

TIPTON ANNE GROVE
★ Three bedroom extended semi detached
★ Lounge/dining room
★ Extended kitchen
★ Double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens
£138,950

TIPTON MONINS AVENUE
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge ★ Dining kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and driveway
★ Front and rear gardens
£119,995

TIPTON KINGSWAY AVENUE
★ Three bedroom mid terrace
★ Through lounge/dining room
★ Downstairs WC ★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Front and rear gardens
£97,995

TIPTON
DAISY MEADOW
★ Four bedroom modern detached
★ Lounge and dining room
★ Conservatory and kitchen with utility room
★ Downstairs WC and upstairs family bathroom
★ En suite to master bedroom
★ Off road parking and garage
★ Rear garden
£199,995

TIPTON
FARMER WAY
★ Extended three bedroom detached family home
★ Entrance hall
★ Two reception rooms
★ Garage/study/storage
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking and rear garden
£172,500

TIPTON
SHINGLERS DRIVE
★ Three storey semi detached
★ Three/four bedrooms
★ Lounge, kitchen diner and downstairs cloakroom
★ En suite to master bedroom plus family bathroom
★ Central heating and double glazing (where specified)
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Rear garden
£144,950

TIPTON
CLARKES GROVE
★ Two bedroom semi detached bungalow
★ Lounge
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Shower room
★ Conservatory
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specifie)
★ Driveway and garage
★Front and rear gardens
£119,995

TIPTON
CROWNMEADOW DRIVE
★ Three bedroom modern mid town house
★ Lounge and dining kitchen
★ Conservatory
★ uPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Rear garden
★ No upward chain
£119,950

TIPTON
AVERN CLOSE
★ Two bedroom end terrace
★ Lounge
★ Kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Driveway
★ Rear garden
£99,995

TIPTON
BEVERSTON ROAD
★ Three bedroom semi detached
★ Two reception rooms
★ Upstairs family bathroom
★ Central heating (where specified)
★ Garage and off road parking
★ Front and rear gardens
£129,995

TIPTON
MONINS AVENUE
★ Two bedroom semi detached
★ Lounge
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Double glazing and gas fired central heating (where specified)
★ Off road parking
★ Side and rear garden
£109,995

FIRST TIME BUYERS EVENING

8th FEBRUARY 5 pm - 8 pm

FREE Mortgage Advice
FREE Solicitors Advice
FREE Property Advice

Pre book to avoid disappointment or turn up between the times stated

Tipton
0121 520 2255

Wednesbury
0121 505 1818

Bilston
01902 353578

Willenhall
01902 631151

Wolverhampton
01902 732324

Sedgley
01902 686868

rightmove.co.uk
The UK's number one property website

Paul Jackson

ESTATE AGENTS, RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS AND CHARTERED SURVEYORS

ATTINGHAM DRIVE, DUDLEY

Newly built Helmsdale spacious four bedroomed detached house by David Wilson Homes, offering gas central heating and double glazing, lounge, dining kitchen, utility room, four bedrooms, en-suite shower, family bathroom, large integral garage.

£229,950

MANSION CRESCENT, SMETHWICK

Traditional town house located in a popular residential location. having the benefit of double glazing and part central heating. providing entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, downstairs toilet, three bedrooms, bathroom. parking space to front and large rear garden.

£125,000

ASHTREE ROAD, TIVIDALE

Traditional style semi, pleasant residential location, offering gas central heating (where specified), double glazing (where sepcified), two reception rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, gardens, garage, driveway. No upward chain. Realistically priced for early sale.

£109,950

FARM ROAD, OLDBURY

50% shared ownership. deceptively spacious traditional style terrace, offering gas central heating, double glazing, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, ground floor bathroom, two good sized bedrooms, rear garden, ideal first time purchase/investment.

£52,000 SHARED OWNERSHIP

BIRMINGHAM STREET, OLDBURY

The cafe is situated on the busy High Street, with lots of passing trade & footflow, catering contracts with West Mids Police & Fire Service, Severn Trent, Sandwell Council. 7 years unexpired on the lease. Great potential for further development.

£25,950

ATTINGHAM DRIVE, DUDLEY

Modern three storey town house by david wilson homes. well presented throughout with the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. well worthy of early inspection, accommodation briefly comprising; lounge, dining kitchen, utility room, four bedrooms, en-suite shower, family bathroom, garage, off road parking.

£695 pcm

PALACE CLOSE, ROWLEY REGIS

Modern style semi, offering gas central heating, double glazing, and accommodation briefly comprising; lounge/dining room, kitchen, utility area, study, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, off road parking.

£650 pcm

AVERY MYERS CLOSE, OLDBURY

Modern style property, offering gas central heating, double glazing, and accommodation briefly comprising; lounge, kitchen/diner, two bedrooms, bathroom, with shower, gardens, off road parking.

£550 pcm

THE CROSSINGS, BROADWELL ROAD, OLDBURY

Luxurious well appointed second floor apartment in excellent order throughout, easy access to local rail/motorway networks, offering double glazing, storage heating, lounge, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, en-suite, bathroom, off road communal parking.

£525 pcm

LESLIE RISE, TIVIDALE

Modern style semi, cul-de-sac location, easy access to M5/M6 motorway networks, offering gas central heating, double glazing, and accommodation briefly comprising; lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, garden, off road parking.

£525 pcm

BIRCHFIELD LANE, OLDBURY

Deceptively spacious traditional style terrace, located in a cul-de-sac position, with easy access to M5/M6 motorway networks, offering gas central heating, double glazing, two reception rooms, extended kitchen, two bedrooms, upstairs bathroom, garden.

£495 pcm

GAMMAGE STREET, DUDLEY

Traditional style terrace, offering gas central heating, double glazing, and accommodation briefly comprising; lounge, dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, two bedrooms.

£425 pcm

RICS The mark of property professionalism wor

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ESTATE AGENTS NAEA

0121 552 1171

www.pauljacksons.co.uk

e-mail: enquiries@pauljacksons.co.uk

rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website

ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR

16 Upper High Street
Wednesbury WS10 7HQ
Tel: 0121 506 7670

Goodchilds

Estate Agents & Lettings

TIPTON
AVERN CLOSE
- One Bedroom Flat
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Secured Entrance
- Kitchen
- Sorry NO DHSS

£350 PCM

WEDNESBURY
ELWELL STREET
- One Bedroom Flat
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Communal Grounds
- Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Sorry NO DHSS

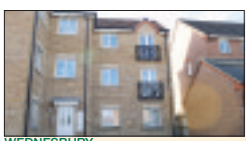
£365 PCM

WEDNESBURY
WOODGREEN ROAD
- One Bedroom Flat
- Bedroom
- Lounge
- Shower Room
- Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Utility Area
- DHSS Considered

£375 PCM

TIPTON
ELIZABETH WALK
- One Bedroom Flat
- Bathroom
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Communal Gardens
- One Bedroom
- Car Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£395 PCM



WEDNESBURY
MANIFOLD WAY
- One Bedroom Apartment
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Allocated Parking
- Kitchen
- Communal Grounds
- Sorry NO DHSS

£395 PCM

DARLASTON
DANGERFIELD LANE
- Two Bedroom Semi
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Kitchen
- Driveway
- Two Bedrooms
- Sorry NO DHSS

£450 PCM

DARLASTON
ADDENBROOKE STREET
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Fitted Kitchen
- Ground Floor Bathroom
- DHSS Considered

£450 PCM

WEDNESBURY
WALTON ROAD
- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Front & Rear Garden
- Two Bedrooms
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM

TIPTON
BEDFORD STREET
- 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Allocated Parking
- Sorry NO DHSS

£475 PCM

WEDNESBURY
ROBERTS ROAD
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Ground Floor Wet Room
- Lounge
- Second Reception Room
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom

£495 PCM

WEST BROMWICH
BULL LANE
- 4 Bedroom Semi
- Bathroom
- Lounge/Diner
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Kitchen
- Guest W.C
- Sorry NO DHSS

£575 PCM

WEDNESBURY
NOWELL STREET
- Four Bedroom Detached Property
- Cloakroom W.C
- Family Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Double Shower Room
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Double Detached Garage

£595 PCM

WEDNESBURY
WESTMORE WAY
- Five Bedroom Detached
- Family Bathroom
- Two Reception Rooms
- Shower Room
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Garage
- Sorry NO DHSS
- Five Bedrooms

£650 PCM

DARLASTON
WALSALL ROAD
- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Further Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Detached Garage
- Sorry NO DHSS

£750 PCM

View properties online www.goodchilds-uk.com

Call for your Free Valuation

We have offices in:
- Brownhills
- Cannock
- Great Barr
- Lichfield
- Milton Keynes
- Stafford
- Sutton Coldfield
- Tamworth
- Wednesbury
- Wolverhampton
- Walsall

0121 525 9355

www.homepoint.org.uk

High Street, West Bromwich B70 6JW

LET your property for FREE!

- ★ *(Subject to Terms & Conditions)* **Yes, you did read it right!**
- ★ **NO SET-UP FEES**
- ★ **6 MONTHS' RENT GUARANTEE FOR FREE**
- ★ **NO LET, NO FEE**
- ★ **FREE EPC CERTIFICATE**

★ Due to demand we **URGENTLY!** Require properties in the ..... West Bromwich, Oldbury, Smethwick, Tipton, Tividale and all other Sandwell areas.

★ **PLEASE CALL NOW!**

pauldubberley the estate agent

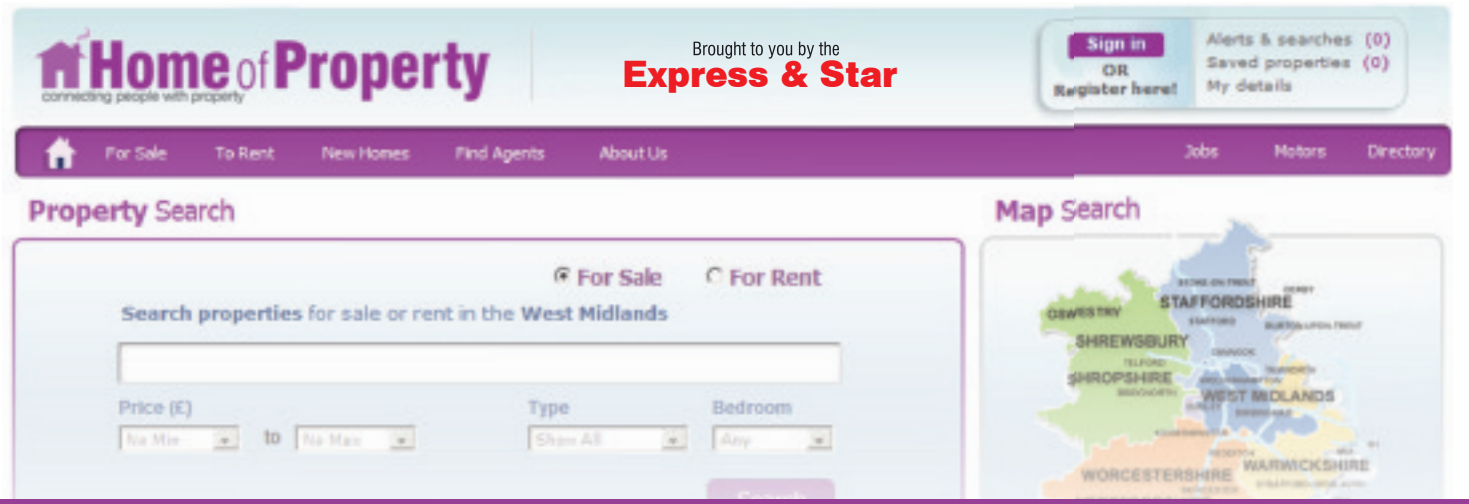
LETTINGS 0121 525 5520

1 Bedford Road, West Bromwich, B71 2RS
3 Bed Semi, Ch, Dg, Gardens To £600.00
11 Trinity View Queen Street, Bilston, WV14 7ER
2 Bed 2nd Floor Apartment £430.00
121 Farmer Way, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 0BL
3 Bed Semi, Ch, Dg £500.00
126 Victoria Street, Willenhall, West Midlands
3 Bed Terrace £425.00
137 Moseley Road, Bilston, WV14 6HZ £475.00
14 Bure Grove, Riverpoint, Willenhall, WV13 2SQ
2 Bed Terrace £495.00
14 Poplar Grove, West Bromwich, B70 6LB
2 Bed Mid Terr, Ch, Dg £450.00
15 Salisbury House, Lily Street, West Bromwich, B71
Groundfloorstudioflat,electriche £275.00
16 Bay Avenue, Herringshaw Gardens, Bilston, WV14
1 Bed 2nd Floor Flat, Ch, Dg, ... £375.00
16 Bell Street, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 8HZ
2 Bed Terrace £475.00
16 Salisbury House, West Bromwich, West Midlands,
1 Bed Ground Floor Flat, Elec £299.00
164a Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, West Midlands
2 Bed First Floor Flat £375.00
18 Salisbury House, Lily Street, West Bromwich, B71
Two Bed Ground Floor Flat £375.00
185 Hanover Road, West Bromwich, B65 9EQ
One Bed, Modern Apartment, ... £425.00
19 Trinity View Queen Street, Bilston, WV14 7ER
2 Bed Flat, Dg, Electric Heating £430.00
21 Poplar Road, Wednesbury, WS10 9PY Two Bed Semi ..£495.00
22 Salisbury House, Lily Street, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed Flat £350.00
23 Monkgate Drive, West Bromwich, West Midlands
First Floor Two Bed Appartment £525.00
25 Moxhull Gardens, Willenhall, West Midlands
2 bed Terrace £400.00
26 Springfield Road, Bilston, West Midlands, WV14 6LN ..£500.00
29 Jefferson Place, West Bromwich, B71 4EY
A First Floor Appartment £475.00
2a Duke Street, Wednesfield, WV11 1TG
Supported Sheltered £1141.00
30 Walsall Road, Willenhall, WV13 2EG 2 BED FLAT £395.00
34 Camberley, Beaconveiw Road, West Bromwich, B71
2bed 4th flr flat, dg £350.00
363a Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton, WV1 2JR £495.00
39 Albany Crescent, Bilston, WV14 0HT
2 Bed Semi With Office / Study £450.00
39 Darbys Way, Alexandra Park, Tipton, West Midlands,
2 Bed First Floor Appartment, ... £425.00
39 Liskeard Road, Walsall, WS5 3ES 3 BED FLAT £425.00
39 Lower High Street, Wednesbury, West Midlands,
2 bed Flat, Refurbished £500.00
4 Ashley Street, Bilston, West Midlands, WV14 7PA
2 Bed Bungalow £550.00
4 Manifold Way, Charlemont Hall Park, Off Friar Park
1 Bed F/f Appart £395.00
44 Victoria Street, Willenhall, WV13 1DR
Two Bedroom Terrace £475.00
47 Shaftesbury Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands
2 Bed Semi Detached, Ch £475.00
48 Doughty Close, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 7AJ
1 Bed Flat £400.00
54 Carnegie Avenue, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 8SX
Studio Appartment £195.00
6 Ashley Street, Bilston, WV14 7PA 2 Bed Semi Bung £550.00
65 Walsall Road, West Bromwich, B71 3HE
3 Bed End Terraced House, ... £595.00
66 Honeybourne Way, Kingfisher, Willenhall, West
3 BED SEMI £550.00
73 Smithmore Crescent, West Bromwich, B71 3ES
6 Bed, Modern 3 Storey House £895.00
75 Ivy Road, Tipton, West Midlands, DY4 9QN
Three Bed Mid Terraced, Ch, ... £475.00
78 Ashley Street, Bilston, West Midlands, WV4 7NN
2 Bed Terr, Gch,dg £450.00
9 Emily Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70
2 Bed, Mid Terrace, CH, DG, ... £475.00
9 Johnson Road, Darlaston, Wednesbury, WS10 7NT
3 Bed Mid Terraced, CH & DG £495.00
9 Short Street, Darlaston WS10 8BS
Two Bed Mid Terraced £450.00
93 Hayley Street, Willenhall, WV12 4JU 3 Bed Terrace £495.00
96 Scott Street, Tipton, West Midlands
Modern 2nd Floor Apartment £525.00
Flat 6, 63-65 Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed 1st Floor Flat, Ch, Dg £525.00
Flat 7 Manor Flats, High Street, Sedgley, Dudley, West
2 bed First Floor Flat,dg,elec £450.00
Flat 7, 63-65 Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich, B71
2 Bed 2nd Floor Flat, Ch, Dg £525.00

View all our properties on www.pauldubberley.co.uk or Text PD to 84840

Selling your house?

Ask your estate agent to put it on Home of Property.co.uk



We have over 24,000 properties listed across Staffordshire & the West Midlands, with the latest properties listed from local Estate Agents.

Details of all our properties are available on our website:
www.pauldubberley.co.uk

pauldubberley
the estate agent

West Bromwich 0121 525 2111
Great Bridge 0121 522 3733
Wednesbury 0121 505 3533

or email: westbromwich@pauldubberley.co.uk

Tipton, Sanders Crescent, NEW

Modern 2.5 Storey End Town House having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen built in oven/hob, 3 double bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, side driveway, side garage and good size rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £127,500
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Bankfield Road, NEW

Traditional Semi Detached situated in a sought after location. Having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & briefly comprising, porch, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, driveway to front and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £124,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Wades Close, The Grove REDUCED

Modern 'Hockley 2' design 2.5 storey Semi Detached having UPVc double-glazing, gas central heating, fitted alarm and spacious family accommodation. Reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen with built in oven/hob, 4 bedrooms, 2 en-suite shower rooms, family bathroom, side garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £144,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Birmingham New Road, REDUCED

Traditional Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Reception hall, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, front driveway, shared side driveway, garage, good size rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £109,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Hall Street,

Spacious, Much Improved Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Viewing highly recommended whilst briefly comprising, reception hall, lounge, dining area, fitted kitchen, sitting room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, enclosed driveway, double length garage with utility / w.c. fore / rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Middle Meadow, NEW

5% DEPOSIT PAID or 80% / 20% SHARED EQUITY. Modern Ground Floor Apartment having security entrance doors, upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower & allocated parking space.
OFFERS AROUND: £79,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Wordsworth Close, NEW

Modern End House having upvc double glazing and well presented accommodation. Reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, 2/3 car driveway.
OFFERS AROUND: £79,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Kingsway Avenue, REDUCED

Middle Terrace having upvc double glazing, gas central heating and spacious family accommodation. Porch, reception hall, guest cloakroom, through lounge / dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, fore and rear garden. No Upward Chain
OFFERS AROUND: £97,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Stanton Grove, Standerio NEW

50% Share Ownership Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Reception hall, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen with built in oven/hob, 2 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, 4 car driveway to front and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £55,000
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Davis Avenue,

Much Improved Traditional Semi Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating and canal to rear. Internal viewing is strongly recommended whilst briefly comprising, enclosed porch, reception hall, lounge, L'Shape fitted kitchen / dining room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, block paved driveway and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £119,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

West Bromwich, Cape Street,

Good Size Semi Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & offering no upward chain. porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, rear lobby, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, block paved driveway, garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Jevons Drive, Alexandra REDUCED

Modern 2.5 Storey End Town House offering immaculate / improved internal accommodation for which viewing is highly recommended. Having upvc double-glazing, gas central heating, spacious family accommodation & briefly comprising, reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 double bedrooms, en suite shower room, re-fitted family bathroom, separate garage, fore garden & enclosed attractive rear garden. FREEHOLD UPON COMPLETION - Subject to Terms & Conditions
OFFERS AROUND: £127,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Rugeley Close, REDUCED

Modern Purpose Built Ground Floor Apartment having upvc double glazing, electric storage heating and canal views. Superbly presented accomodation briefly comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen with built in oven/hob, 1 bedroom, bathroom with shower & allocated parking space.
OFFERS AROUND: £64,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Scott Street, Heathfields,

Modern Three Storey Middle Town House having upvc double glazing & gas central heating. Spacious family accommodation briefly comprises, reception hall, guest shower room, lounge / dining room, study room (possible bedroom 4) fitted breakfast kitchen, utility room, 3 bedrooms 2 with en suite shower rooms, family bathroom, separate garage, fore & rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £159,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Sanders Crescent, REDUCED

Middle 2.5 Storey Town House having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, rear garden & allocated parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £124,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Shinglers Drive,

Modern 3 Storey Semi Detached Town House having upvc double glazing, gas central heating and cul de sac location. Well presented accommodation briefly comprises, reception hall, guest cloakroom, lounge, study room / possible bedroom 4, fitted kitchen, utility room, 3 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, driveway, garage & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £144,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Solly Grove, Queensgate REDUCED

Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing, electric heating & cul de sac location. Reception hall, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen with built in oven/hob, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, driveway to front & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,995
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

Tipton, Clover Piece, Tipton NEW

Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing, gas central heating & quiet cul de sac location. Reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen built in oven/hob, 2 bedrooms, bathroom with shower, 2 car parking, enclosed fore garden and rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £104,950
Viewing: 0121 522 3733

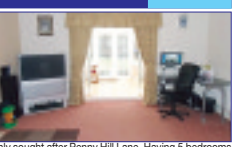
West Bromwich, Charlemont Avenue, West Bromwich NEW

An Attractive Traditional Semi Detached House situated within the highly regarded cul de sac of Charlemont Avenue. Benefitting From No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises- Integral Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Open Plan Kitchen & Dining Room, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Verandah, Large Rear Garden, Front Garden and Driveway Off Road Parking Leading to Garage.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £159,950

West Bromwich, Church Vale, West Brom NEW

A two bedroom first floor flat convenient for local transport, Sandwell hospital, West Bromwich and surrounding areas. Much Improved by the current vendors. Gas centrally heated and double glazed with accommodation to include hallway, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, refitted bathroom, parking and communal gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £74,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Pennyhill Lane, West Bromwich NEW

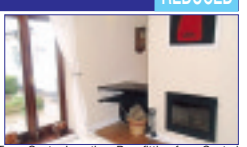


An Attractive, Modern Mid Town House located on the highly sought after Penny Hill Lane. Having 5 bedrooms with 2 ensuites, this property really must be seen to be appreciated. No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises- Entrance Hall with Guest Cloaks/ WC, Lounge/ Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Ensuites, Family Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear and Garage within rear Courtyard with Parking Space.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £234,950

West Bromwich, Europa Avenue, West Bromwich

An Attractive Detached Bungalow situated on a choice corner plot within the popular Sandwell Valley Estate. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Briefly Comprises, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear, Garage & Driveway. The property is close to J1 M5 and is within walking distance to Dartmouth Park.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,995
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Mason Street, West Bromwich REDUCED



An Attractive Detached House with an Excellent Town Centre Location. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing, Intruder Alarm and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises Open Plan Style Lounge/ Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom/ WC, 3 Bedrooms and Gardens to Side and Rear. Extension Potential Subject to Planning Permission.
Viewing 0121 525 2111 OFFERS AROUND: £124,950

Great Barr, Gorstie Croft, Great Barr

A Delightful Modern Retirement Bungalow, Age restricted for over 60's only. Located within a small private development of similar bungalows, this property benefits from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Comprises- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, 2 Good Size Bedrooms, Shower Room/ WC, Gardens to Front & Rear and Shared Parking Area. Based on a 36% shared ownership.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Dagger Lane, West Bromwich

An Appealing, Detached House, situated in this very popular area near Dartmouth Park and Sandwell Valley Country Park. Centrally heated, double glazed and intruder alarmed. Many character features. Long Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom/ WC, Front & Rear Gardens and Double Garage to rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £279,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Midlands, Hydes Road, West Bromwich, West

A 3 bedroom detached property in a popular location with good Transport links in to West Bromwich town centre the property comprises of , Storm Porch, Sitting Room, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W/c, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, pleasent Rear Garden, Carport and off Road Parking for 3 Cars. No Upward Chain.
OFFERS AROUND: £184,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Byron Street, West Bromwich

An Impressivley Extended Double Fronted End Terraced House. Benefitting From Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen/ Diner, Utility, Guest Cloaks/ WC, 3 Bedrooms, En Suite Shower Room, Bathroom/ WC
OFFERS AROUND: £159,995
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Charlemont Avenue, West

An Extended Larger Type Traditional Semi Detached House within a popular cul de sac. Having Central Heating and Double Glazing. Accomodation Comprises- Integral porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended/ Kitchen Diner, 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Refitted Shower Room/ WC, Large Tiered Rear Garden, Driveway Off Road Parking and Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £176,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Witton Lane, Hill Top, West

!!!!!! THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS !!!!!! A Centrally heated, double glazed and intruder alarmed Detached House comprising Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Shower Room/Wc, Off road parking to front and Large Garage to the rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £148,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Leacroft Grove, West Bromwich

A Well Presented Semi Detached House situated within a quiet cul de sac location. Benefitting from Central Heating & Double Glazing. Accomodation comprises Entrance into Dining Room, Lounge, Refitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Gardens to Front & Rear, Paved Off Road Parking to Front leading to Garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £139,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Huntingdon Road, West Bromwich

An Attractive Modern Mid Terraced House. Excellent location for local amenetiies including schools. Benefitting from Central Heating and Double Glazing and Intruder Alarm. Accomodation comprising- Hall with Guest Cloaks/ WC, Lounge/ Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/ WC, Rear Garden and Driveway Off Road Parking to Front.
OFFERS AROUND: £122,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Bromwich, Denbigh Drive, West Bromwich

A Three Bedroom Semi Detached House within a popular residential area. Benefitting from Central Heating, Double Glazing and No Upward Chain. Accomodation Briefly comprises Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Seperate WC, Gardens to Front & Rear and Driveway Off Road Parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £114,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

West Midlands, Arlington Road, West Bromwich,

An Extended Traditional Semi Detached House with excellent location for local schools and amenities. Benefitting From Central Heating and Double Glazing (where specified). Briefly Comprising:- Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Refitted Shower Room/ WC, Driveway to Front and Large Rear Garden and Garage with Rear Vehicle Access.
OFFERS AROUND: £169,950
Viewing: 0121 525 2111

OFT Approved code

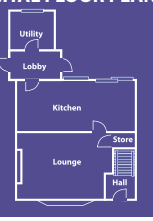
The Property Ombudsman SALES

VIRTUAL TOURS

VIEW OUR PROPERTIES ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE

TEXT PD TO 84840
OR pauldubberley.mobi ON YOUR PHONE BROWSER

DIGITAL FLOOR PLANS



rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website

FindaProperty.com

globrix.com The property search engine

Details of all our properties are available on our website:
www.pauldubberley.co.uk

pauldubberley
the estate agent

Call Wednesbury Branch on
0121 505 3533
or email: wednesbury@pauldubberley.co.uk

Wednesbury
Park Lane, Wednesbury NEW

- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Convinient & Popular Location
- Storm Porch & Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £149,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Elwell Street, Wednesbu NEW

- A Double Fronted 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (as specified)
- Reception Hall & Guest WC
- Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £164,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Cobham Road, Friar Par NEW

- 3 Bedroom Mid Residence
- Gas Central Heating
- Partial Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain!

OFFERS AROUND: £84,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Hydes Road, Wednesbu REDUCED

- Individually Built Detached House
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Reception Hall
- Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Corporation Street, Wednesbury

- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Spacious & Well Presented
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Potential Side Building Plot (STPP)

OFFERS AROUND: £129,950
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Wedgbury Close, Wedne NEW

- A 2 Bedroom 2 Floor Apartment
- UPVc Double Glazing
- Electric Storage Heating
- Approached via a Communal Entrance

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Darlaston
Addenbrooke Street, Darlaston

- 2 Bedroom (with unfinished loft room) Period Semi Detached
- Requiring Upgrade & No Upward Chain!
- Partially Centrally Heated
- Partially Double Glazed

OFFERS AROUND: £59,950
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Tipton
Hazel Road, Leabrook, T REDUCED

- 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

Viewing: 0121 505 3533 £154,995

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Address:- 16 Bradshaw Avenue, Darlaston, West Midlands WS10 8QA We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £63,500. Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts. Agents Address:- Paul Dubberley & Co, 97 Walsall Street, Wednesbury, West Midlands, WS10 9BY, Telephone:- 0121 505 3533

Darlaston
King Edward Street, Darlaston

★★OPEN VIEWING ON 26 JANUARY 2010★★12:00 - 17:00★★A period 2 bedroom (and loft room) period semi detached home with some retaining features. The property benefits gas central heating and double glazing (where specified) and is located in this cul-de-sac location. The accommodation comprises lounge, dining room with feature fireplace, ★★EXTENDED★★ 'L' shaped breakfast kitchen, downstairs bathroom/wc, 2 bedrooms, a loft room, enclosed rear garden and ★★SECURED GARAGE★★ to the rear.

Viewing: 0121 505 3533 OFFERS INVITED

Wednesbury
Keir Road, Wednesbury REDUCED

- Presenting a 3 Bedroom End Residence
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVc Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

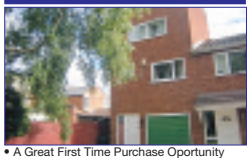
OFFERS AROUND: £97,500
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Oakeswell Street, Wednesbury

- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £164,950
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Oatmill Close, Kings Hill, Wednesbury



- A Great First Time Purchase Oportunity
- 3 Bedroom 2.5 Storey End Residence
- Double Glazing (Where specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £87,500
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Teal Grove, Hawkswood Grange, Wednesbury

- Modern 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Quiet & Popular Housing Estate
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: £99,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Ridding Lane, Wednesb REDUCED

- Period Terrace Home
- Deceptively Spacious
- 4 Good Bedrooms
- Entrance Hall

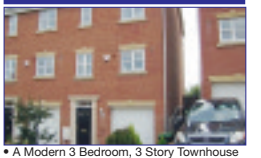
OFFERS OVER: £138,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Woden Road East, Wed REDUCED

- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Extended & Well Presented
- Entrance Porch & Hall
- 20ft Lounge & Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £134,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Goldby Drive, Wednesbury



- A Modern 3 Bedroom, 3 Story Townhouse
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Presented to a Very High Standard

OFFERS AROUND: £142,500
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Goldicroft Road, Wednesbury

- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Detached Home (with scope to extend, subject to planning)
- Gas Central Heating
- Mostly Double Glazed - Except where original Feature Windows Remain
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £169,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Prince George Road, Wednesbury

- A 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Excellent Commuter Links
- No Upward Chain!
- Double Glazing (where specified)

OFFERS AROUND: £89,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Hamstead Terrace, Wednesbury

- A 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Placed within a Cul-de-Sac Location
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall & Downstairs W/C

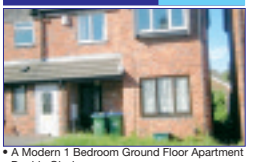
OFFERS AROUND: £104,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Devon Road, Wednesbu REDUCED

- A Remarkably Well Presented 1 Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Double Glazing (where specified)
- Gas Central Heating
- Approached via a Secure Communal Entrance with Intercom

OFFERS AROUND: £64,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Addison Terrace, Wedne REDUCED



- A Modern 1 Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Electric Storage Heating
- Fitted Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £69,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Maple Avenue, Wednesbury

- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Quiet Cul-de-sac Location with No Upward Chain!
- Centrally Heated & Double Glazed (where specified)
- Generous Corner PLot with Fantastic Secluded Gardens

OFFERS AROUND: £144,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Chestnut Road, Golf Links, Wednesbury

- A Much Improved & Extended 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- Reception Hal & Guest WC

OFFERS AROUND: £169,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Friar Park Road, Wednesbury

- 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace Home
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVc Double Glazing (where specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £94,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Oxford Street, Wednesb REDUCED

- A Spacious 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- UPVc Double Glazing & Central Heating (where specified)
- No Upward Chain!
- Reception Hall

OFFERS OVER: £74,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Poplar Road, Wednesbury

- Spacious Semi-Detached
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: £113,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Hobs Road, Wednesbury

- A Tidy 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (Where specified)
- Generous Corner Plot

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Walsall
Lord Street, Walsall REDUCED

- A 2 Bedroom End Residence
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVc Double Glazing (where specified)
- A Whopping 23ft Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £99,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

West Bromwich
Bustleholme Lane, West Bromwich

- A 5 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Reception Hall & Guest WC
- Lounge
- Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £244,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Darby Road, Wednesbury

- Presenting a 3 Bedroom Terrace Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £105,000
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Park Lane, Wednesbury

- Much Improved Mid Terrace
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Crew Road, Wednesbury

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Centrally Heated & UPVc Double Glazing (where specified)
- No Upward Chain!
- Great Transport Links

OFFERS AROUND: £114,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wednesbury
Darby Road, Wednesbury

- A Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- UPVc Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain!
- Reception Hall

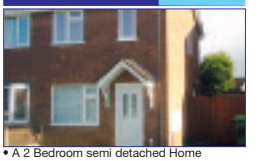
OFFERS AROUND: £124,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Darlaston
Alexandra Road, Darlaston

- An Extremely Spacious & Well Presented 3/4 Bed Semi
- Retaining Many Original Features
- Gas Centrally Heated & Double Glazed (as specified)
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND £159,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Tipton
Catherton Close, Burber REDUCED



- A 2 Bedroom semi detached Home
- UPVc Double Glazing
- Quite Cul-de-Sac Location
- No Upward Chain!

OFFERS AROUND: £109,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

OFT Approved code

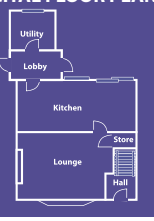
The Property Ombudsman SALES

VIRTUAL TOURS

VIEW OUR PROPERTIES ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE

TEXT PD TO 84840
OR pauldubberley.mobi ON YOUR PHONE BROWSER

DIGITAL FLOOR PLANS



rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website

FindaProperty.com

globrix.com The property search engine

40 Years

A reputation built on 40 years of Quality, Professionalism and Expertise

Robert Oulsnam and Company

oulsnam

0121 4299986 Bearwood

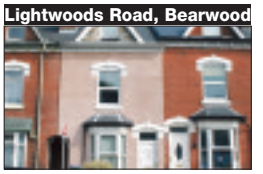
NEW

Bishopton Road, Bearwood

- A Stylish Larger Style Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Sizeable Accommodation
- Rear Garage
- Space for a Dressing Room or Study
- Internal Viewing Recommended

Offers in the region of £169,950

Lightwoods Road, Bearwood



- A Traditional Terrace Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Ideal Family Sized Accommodation
- No Upward Chain

Offers in the region of £159,950

Farm Road, Rowley Regis

- Delightful Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Extensive Gardens

Offers in the region of £119,950

NEW

Milcote Road, Bearwood

- A Stunning Mid Terrace Property
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Second Lounge for Additional Living Space
- Large Stylish Bathroom
- Delightful Rear Garden
- Viewing Highly Recommended

Offers in the region of £174,950

NEW PRICE

Francis Road, Smethwick

- A Delightful End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Spacious Breakfast Kitchen
- Elegant Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- Well Maintained Rear Garden

NOW £124,950

NEW PRICE

Bearwood Road, Smethwick

- Well Presented Terrace
- Spacious Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Ideal FTB Accomodation

NOW £116,950

NEW PRICE

Bishopton Road, Bearwood

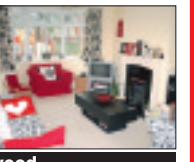
- Stylish and Much Improved
- Three Bedroom Terrace
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Parking to the Rear
- No Chain

NOW £189,950

Bernard Road, Edgbaston

- Semi Detached Property
- Four Good Sized Bedrooms
- Large Through lounge
- Well Appointed Breakfast Kitchen
- Generous Sized Rear Garden
- Integral Garage

Offers in the region of £259,950



Woodbourne Road, Bearwood

- Comprehensively Refurbished
- Traditional Semi-Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Delightful Breakfast Kitchen
- Garage
- Off-road Parking

Offers in the region of £204,950

Cheshire Road, Smethwick

- Larger Style Traditional Terrace
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Superb Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- No Chain

Offers in the region of £129,950

Barclay Road, Bearwood

- A Traditional Character Property
- Wealth of Original Features
- Three Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain

Offers in the region of £259,950

Katherine Road, Bearwood

- An Exceptional Character Property
- Exhibiting a Wealth of Period Features
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Spacious Bathroom

Offers in the region of £149,950

Ethel Street, Bearwood

- A Well Presented Traditional Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Close to Local Amenities
- No Upward Chain

NOW £107,000

Willow Avenue, Edgbaston

- Victorian Semi Detached
- Deceptively Spacious
- Retains Many Original Features
- Three Bedrooms Plus Loft Space

Offers in the region of £184,950

team rightmove.co.uk RICS Surveyors Ombudsman Service NAEA

www.oulsnam.net

40 Years

A reputation built on 40 years of Quality, Professionalism and Expertise

Robert Oulsnam and Company

oulsnam

0121 4299986 Bearwood

Alexander Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Terrace Property
- Well Presented Throughout
- Three Bedrooms
- Great Size Rear Garden

NOW £124,950

Lightwoods Road, Bearwood

- Extremely Well Presented
- Three Storey Terrace
- Three Double Bedrooms
- No Chain

NOW £164,950

Reginald Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Terrace Residence
- Double Fronted
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Delightful Kitchen

NOW £122,950

Thimblemill Road, Bearwood

- A Traditional Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Close to Local Amenities
- No Upward Chain

NOW £113,950

Milcote Road, Bearwood

- Well Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Spacious Bathroom
- Well Maintained Rear Garden

NOW £164,950

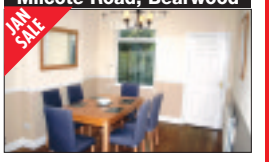
Wigorn Road, Bearwood

- A Charming Mid Terrace
- Two Bedrooms
- Attractive Bathroom
- Conservatory

NOW £134,950

Thinking of selling in 2011? ... Robert Oulsnam & Company WILL sell it for you

Milcote Road, Bearwood



- Traditional Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Favourable Location
- Viewing Essential

NOW £142,000

Oakwood Road, Smethwick

- Well Presented
- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Ideal FTB Accommodation

NOW £87,950

Blandford Road, Quinton

- Comprehensively Refurbished Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Extended Kitchen
- No Chain

NOW £99,950

Capethorn Road, Smethwick

- A Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Superb Spacious Bathroom
- Stylish Kitchen

NOW £114,950

At the Bearwood Branch, we pride ourselves on a high quality service provided by energetic, enthusiastic and proactive staff.
We will provide honest and expert marketing advice from Valuation right through to Completion!
For prospective purchasers, we have pleasure in offering almost 50% of our stock at reduced prices as part of our JANUARY SALE.

Contact us NOW for a full list of available properties.
Help us make 2011 a successful year, contact us TODAY!

Mill Lane, Bartley Green

- Traditional Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- In Need of General Modernisation
- Popular First Time Buyer Location

NOW £99,950

Pound Road, Oldbury

- An Improved Three Bedroom Semi
- Superb Breakfast Kitchen
- Newly Appointed Bathroom
- Seperate Garage

NOW £122,500

Londonderry Lane, Smethwick

- An Exceptional Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms Plus Loft Room
- Delightful Breakfast Kitchen
- No Upward Chain

NOW £129,950

Swindon Road, Edgbaston

- Much Improved & Beautifully Presented
- Traditional Terraced Property
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Superb Kitchen & Sun Room

Price For January Only £119,950

Selsey Road, Edgbaston

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Spacious Kitchen & Bathroom
- Good Size Rear Garden

NOW £119,950

Sandon Road, Edgbaston

- Traditional Semi-Detached Property
- Large Family Accommodation
- Five Double Bedrooms
- No Upward Chain

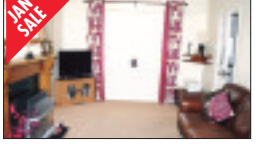
NOW £294,950

Pinkney Place, Oldbury

- Traditional Semi-Detached Property
- Delightful Breakfast Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Well Appointed Bathroom

NOW £124,950

Cornwall Avenue, Oldbury



- Attractive & Much Improved
- Three Bedroom Terrace
- Fully Double Glazed Conservatory
- Off Road Parking

NOW £129,950

Hill Top Road, Oldbury

- A Stunning Two Bed Semi
- Loft Space
- Secure Rear Garage
- Attractive Kitchen

Price for January Only £144,950

Titford Road, Oldbury

- An Impeccable First Floor Appartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Modern, Well Maintained Block
- Close to Local Amenities

NOW £99,850

Vicarage Road, Oldbury

- A Well Presented, Modern, Semi
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- No Chain

NOW £134,950

team rightmove.co.uk RICS Surveyors Ombudsman Service NAEA

www.oulsnam.net

new year, **new home...**

register your interest today at **www.cameronhomes.co.uk** and qualify for **£1000** reservation discount*

Regent Rise

Regent Road | Tividale | B69 1TL

a mix of **14 three bedroom semi detached** and **mews** style homes

enquire **today!**

- ideal new homes for first time buyers or new families
- private gardens and parking with each home

☎ **08000 126 350** for **further information.**

Connells

or contact our **acting agent** on:

☎ **0121 552 2671**

✉ **oldbury@connells.co.uk**

CAMERON

www.cameronhomes.co.uk

YOU CAN

with Taylor Wimpey

LATIMER SQUARE

Summerton Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 2EL

Want to double your deposit?

With depositmatch* buying your new home can be easier and much more affordable.

- We could double your deposit up to 10%.
- A bigger deposit gives you access to more affordable mortgages.
- Mortgage funds readily available.

Sales information centre open Thurs to Mon 11am - 5pm.

2 bedroom apartments plus 3 & 4 bedroom homes, prices from £89,995

0845 676 2570

taylorwimpey.co.uk/can

Taylor Wimpey

*Price of £76,495 based on a purchase price of £89,995 when you pay 85% with easystart. Offers available on selected plots and developments, subject to status and for a limited time only. For full details of the offers contact the sales information centre, visit our website taylorwimpey.co.uk/easystart or request full details from your local Taylor Wimpey office. Prices correct at time of going to press. Image shows typical Taylor Wimpey homes.

TOM GILES & CO

team

SMETHWICK

ST.MARKS ROAD

Offers in the Region of £89,950

A mid terraced property situated in a popular area of Smethwick ideal first time purchase or acquisition for investment purposes. Reception hall, two reception rooms, kitchen, staircase from rear sitting room to first floor landing, two bedrooms, first floor bathroom with fitted shower over bath, central heating, double glazing where specified, front and rear garden

TIPTON

WRENS AVENUE

Offers in the region of £215,000

A detached property situated in a quiet but convenient location requiring some updating and improvement, porch entrance into reception hall stores off, two reception rooms both with feature fireplaces, kitchen, conservatory, garage to side. Staircase from hall to three bedrooms, bathroom, central heating and double glazing where specified, off road parking, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

POOL LANE

Offers in the region of £189,950

A detached bungalow having side substantial off road parking to side offering ideal caravan storage, storm porch entrance into L shaped reception hall, kitchen utility area off, lounge conservatory off, three bedrooms, bathroom with jacuzzi bath and seperate shower cubicle, gas fired central heating, uPVC double glazing, front and rear gardens

OLDBURY

MAYPOLE ROAD

Offers in the region of £129,950

A modernised end townhouse situated at the head of cul-de-sac location within the catchment area of Perryfields High School, hall entrance, lounge, dining kitchen, conservatory, lobby, downstairs bathroom. Staircase from reception hall to first floor landing, off which lead three bedrooms, shower room, central heating, double glazing where specified, off road parking to front, rear garden

OLDBURY

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Offers in the region of £124,950

A fully modernised and extended mid townhouse o benefiting loft conversion providing additional bedroom space Storm porch entrance, lounge feature fireplace doors to kitchen archway to conservatory. Staircase to first floor landing, two bedrooms and bathroom. Staircase to loft conversion including fitted wardrobes central heating and double glazing where specified, off road parking, rear garden

OLDBURY

MALLARD DRIVE

Offers in the region of £105,000

A mid town house situated on a popular sought after development offering ideal accommodation for first purchase. Front entrance with canopy over, reception hall, lounge, kitchen. Staircase to two bedrooms (master bedroom with fitted wardrobe) bathroom shower over bath, central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens, allocated car parking space

OLDBURY

CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD

Offers in the region of £95,995

A well presented, maintained and improved mid terraced property situated in a convenient location with off road parking situated to the rear comprising storm porch entrance into front room, inner hallway, rear sitting room, archway to modern kitchen. Staircase to landing, two bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, double glazing, central heating, front and easily maintained rear garden

OLDBURY

PENNCRICKET LANE

Offers in the region of £95,000

A fully modernised and refurbished end terraced property having rear off road car parking facility uPVC door into front room feature fireplace, inner hallway stores off, rear sitting room feature fireplace, kitchen. Staircase to landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing and central heating, rear yard, garden and off road parking facility through shared access to side

OLDBURY

WATERWAYS DRIVE

Offers in the region of £93,995

A modern well presented end town house situated within the poplar Waterways Development constructed by Harper Homes offering ideal accommodation for first purchase Canopy entrance into reception hall, kitchen, lounge. Staircase from hall to first floor landing, cupboard off, two bedrooms, bathroom shower over bath, central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens and allocated car parking space

TIVIDALE

ASHTREE ROAD

Offers in the region of £79,950

A Two storey maisonette flat situated above shop premises offering excellent rental investment opportunity, communal staircase and landing, entrance door to reception hall, kitchen, lounge having feature fireplace and balcony off, staircase to, three bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, double glazed and centrally heated where specified, garage and communal yard

OLDBURY

UNDERHILL WALK

Offers in excess of £65,000

A mid town house situated within the popular location of Langley Village requiring complete modernisation and refurbishment offering an ideal investment opportunity uPVC front entrance door into reception hall stores and understairs storage off, lounge, kitchen. Staircase with half and three quarter landing, two bedrooms, bathroom, seperate W.C., double glazing, rear garden, communal parking available

PUBLIC NOTICE

We advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £138,000

Any persons wishing to increase on this offer should notify the agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts.

Tom Giles & Co, 11 Church Street, OLDBURY, B69 3AD 0121 552 6171

TIVIDALE

TEMPLE WAY

£435 pcm

A deceptively spacious first floor flat offering ideal accommodation for a couple or single person. Hall entrance, staircase extending to first floor landing, stores and loft space off, lounge with feature fireplace, kitchen, two double bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath, rear garden

NETHERTON

ASHLEY HOUSE

£395 pcm

An ideally located fourth floor flat within a block of six units well located with public transport to local amenities offering good sized accommodation, communal entrance to front and rear, first floor landing, porch, hallway, lounge, kitchen off, bedroom, bathroom, communal parking to rear

WEDNESBURY

CRANKHALL LANE

£350 pcm

A single person's first floor flat above a shop premises in a convenient location offering well planned and presented accommodation comprising communal entrance from side with staircase to first floor landing, entrance door to hall, lounge with fireplace, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing

teamprop.co.uk 0121 552 6171

NAEA The Property Ombudsman

11 Church Street, Oldbury, B69 3AD

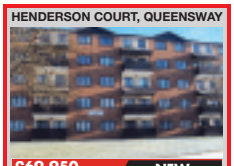
Bairstow eves

Countrywide

Oldbury/Quinton 0121 422 0090

quinton@bairstoweves.co.uk

HENDERSON COURT, QUEENSWAY



£69,950 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOMS MAISONETTE
★ LOUNGE ★ KITCHEN
★ THREE BEDROOMS
★ BATHROOM
★ DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

FLORENCE ROAD, OLDBURY

£70.000 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOMS ★ TERRACED
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOM ★ BATHROOM
★ FRONT AND REAR GARDENS
★ CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING

LAUNDRY ROAD, SMETHWICK

£86,995 NEW PRICE

★ THREE BEDROOMS ★ TERRACED
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★ GUEST W.C ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ FAMILY BATHROOM★ REAR GARDEN
★ CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING

PERRY COURT, OLDBURY

£89,950 NEW

★ TWO BEDROOM FLAT
★ LOUNGE ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ BATHROOM ★ PRIVATE PARKING
★ CENTRAL HEATING
★ DOUBLE GLAZING

ANITA AVENUE, OLDBURY

£102,995 NEW

★ TWO BEDROOMS ★ SEMI DETACHED
★ LOUNGE ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ BATHROOM ★ OFF ROAD PARKING
★ FRONT AND REAR GARDEN
★ DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

WINWOOD ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS

£109,950

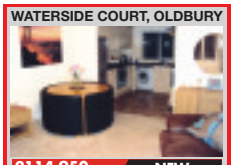
★THREE BEDROOMS
★SEMI DETACHED
★LOUNGE ★KITCHEN/DINER
★DRIVEWAY ★GARAGE

PITFIELDS ROAD, OLDBURY

£109,950 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOMS ★ SEMI DETACHED
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★ CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING
★ OFF ROAD PARKING
★ FRONT AND REAR GARDENS.

WATERSIDE COURT, OLDBURY



£114,950 NEW

★ SECOND FLOOR APARTMENT
★ FITTED KITCHEN ★ LOUNGE
★ TWO BEDROOMS ★ SECURED PARKING
★ DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
★ COMMUNAL GARDENS

LEE GARDENS, SMETHWICK

£119,950

★ THREE BEDROOM ★ SEMI DETACHED
★ CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION ★ LOUNGE
★ KITCHEN/DINER ★ CONSERVATORY
★ OFF ROAD PARKING

HARVINGTON ROAD OLDBURY

£129,500

★THREE BEDROOM ★SEMI DETACHED
★LOUNGE ★DINING ROOM/CONSERVATORY
★FITTED KITCHEN ★GUEST W.C
★FRONT AND REAR GARDENS
★OFF ROAD PARKING

HARVINGTON ROAD, OLDBURY

£129,950

★ THREE BEDROOMS
★ SEMI- DETACHED PROPTERY
★ LOUNGE ★ FITTED KITCHEN
★ REAR GARDEN ★ OFF ROAD PARKING
★ DOUBLE GLAZING ★ CENTRAL HEATING, .

FARM ROAD, OLDBURY

£129,950 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOM TERRACED
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS ★ KITCHEN/DINER
★ FAMILY BATHROOM ★ REAR GARDEN
★ CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING.

ADDINGTON WAY, OLDBURY

£135,000 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOMS ★ SEMI-DETACHED
★ FITTED KITCHEN/DINER ★ LOUNGE
★ GUEST W/C ★ FRONT AND REAR GARDEN
★ OFF ROAD PARKING ★ COMMUNAL DRIVE WAY
★ DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

BIRCH LANE, OLDBURY

£139,950 NEW

★ TWO BEDROOMS ★ END TERRACE
★ THROUGH LOUNGE/DINER
★ GARDEN★ DOUBLE GLAZING
★ CENTRAL HEATING

BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

£142,000 NEW

★ THREE BEDROOMS
★ SEMI DETACHED
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★ GARAGE ★ REAR GARDEN
★ OFF ROAD PARKING

ST. PETERS CROFT, WEDNESBURY

£145,000

★ THREE BEDROOM ★ SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY
★ TWO RECEPTION ROOMS ★ CONSERVATORY
★ GUEST W.C. ★ EN SUITE
★ FRONY AND REAR GARDENS
★ GARAGE ★OFF ROAD PARKING,

HUGH ROAD, SMETHWICK

£164,950

★ THREE BEDROOMS ★ SEMI-DETACHED
★ THROUGH LOUNGE ★EXTENED
★ FITTED KITCHEN / DINER
★ REAR GARDEN
★ OFF ROAD PARKING

JACMAR CRESCENT, SMETHWICK

£175,000 NEW

★SEMI DETACHED ★TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
★FITTED KITCHEN ★GUEST W/C
★UTILITY ROOM ★THREE BEDROOMS
★BATHROOM★OFF ROAD PARKING
★GARAGE ★REAR GARDEN

www.rightmove.co.uk

Part of the UK's largest Estate Agency Group

OEA Ombudsman www.oea.co.uk

OFT Approved code

Home of Property
connecting people with property
homeofproperty.co.uk

Developers unveil a major initiative

BARRATT West Midlands is unveiling a major initiative to sell showhomes at its developments to buy-to-let investors – as investor buyers return to the West Midlands' property market in significant numbers for the first time in four years.

The housebuilder says the return of investors may be an early sign that the local property market will outperform other areas of the country in 2011.

"We have not seen this level of demand from investor buyers outside of London since the downturn of 2007," said Graydon Worthing, sales director at Barratt West Midlands.

"That is why we are today unveiling a deal called Showhome leaseback, which comes with a guaranteed yield of seven per cent."

"Buyers have the opportunity to buy the Showhome at selected developments in the region and then immediately lease it back to us for up to five years to use as a marketing suite."

"Rather than have to worry about untidy tenants, the investor knows that we will maintain the property in pristine condition.

"Barratt is also the only major housebuilder which guarantees internal fixtures and fittings for a full five years."

Rents in Birmingham are rising rapidly which means that rental homes are increasingly in demand.

Whereas investors were primarily interested in flats before 2007, today they are looking for high-quality new houses

Whereas investors were primarily interested in flats before 2007, today they are looking for high-quality new houses.

"They take the view that the direction of house prices in the medium term is up," added Graydon.

"So they expect to be sitting on a tidy profit in three to five years' time. We expect high demand for this product and www.barratthomes.co.uk/showhome has a new section to provide full details to interested investors."

Barratt West Midlands currently features show homes at The Crescent, on Shardway, Shard End, Birmingham.

The Crescent offers a selection of one-bedroom maisonettes priced from £74,950 and three-bedroom houses priced from £144,950.

For details, contact the sales office open daily from 10am to 5pm on 0121 748 26 38.

Alternatively, call the sales hotline on 0844 811 9933 open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm or see www.barratthomes.co.uk

New

Steve Barton, sales manager at David Wilson Mercia, reports that a similar product is available from his company.

There is a new section of the developers website which can be found at www.dwh.co.uk/showhome

David Wilson Mercia is currently selling properties at the following developments in the West Midlands:

Churchfields Place, All Saint's Way, West Bromwich, B71 4DR. Tel: 0121 588 6075.

Churchfields Place offers one-, two bedroom apartments from £94,950, two-bedroom coach houses priced from £147,950 and three- and four-bedroom houses priced from £184,950.

Sales office open daily from 10am to 5pm.

Hamlet Place, Bloomfield Road, Tipton, DY4 9DF. Tel: 0121 522 3713.

Hamlet Place offers a one-bedroom coach house priced at £99,950 and two- and three-bedroom houses from £130,000.

Sales office open Thursday to Monday from 10am to 5pm.

Impney Grange, John Corbett Drive, Stourbridge, DY8 4JB. Tel: 01384 374 928

Impney Grange offers a selection of two-,three-, four- and five-bedroom houses priced from £147,500.

Sales office open daily from 10am to 5pm.

Waterside Walk, Water Reed Grove, Walsall, WS2 7BY. Tel: 01922 491 419

Waterside Walk offers a selection of two-bedroom apartments priced from £89,950 and two-, three- and four-bedroom houses priced from £137,500.

Sales office open daily from 10am to 5pm.

Alternatively, call the sales hotline on 0844 811 3322 open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm or log on to www.dwh.co.uk

The Barratt team at The Crescent, Shard End, Birmingham, in front of one of the new show homes

BARTRAMS SALES AND LETTINGS
0121 601 9370 www.bartrams.com
PropertyLive.co.uk FindaProperty.com globrix.com

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

HORSECROFT DRIVE, B71 3TE
SALE
● An End Terraced Property ● Two Bedrooms ● C/H & D/G ● Freehold
WAS £104,995 SALE PRICE £99,995

EDWIN PHILLIPS DRIVE, B71 2AZ
SALE
● A Modern Detached Property ● Three Bedrooms ● Conservatory ● Side Garage
WAS £164,950 SALE PRICE £160,000

MARSH LANE, B72 3DP
SALE
● A Semi Detachted Property ● Three Bedrooms ● C/H & Part D/G ● No Upward Chain
WAS £99,950 SALE PRICE £99,750

COLES LANE, B71 2QL
SALE
● A Semi Detached Property ● Two Bedrooms ● C/H & D/G ● Freehold
£104,500

STOUR STREET, B70 9AU
SALE
● A Semi Detached House ● Three Bedrooms ● Conservatory ● Freehold, C/H & D/G
WAS £119,995 SALE PRICE £117,995

GREENLAWNS, DY4 0SU
SALE
● A Three Bedroomed Flat ● C/H & D/G ● Off Road Parking & Garage ● Leasehold
WAS £51,995 SALE PRICE £49,995

ALDER CRESCENT, WS5 4LQ
SALE
● A Semi Detached Property ● Three Bedrooms ● Conservatory/Sun Room ● C/H & D/G
£119,995

LITTLE LANE, B71 4HP
● An End Terrace Property ● Three Bedrooms ● C/H & D/G ● Converted Loft
£120,000

SHELDON ROAD, B71 3JB
SALE
● A Semi Detached Property ● Two Reception Rooms ● Three Bedrooms ● No Upward Chain
WAS £125,000 SALE PRICE £120,000

BUSTLEHOLME AVENUE, B71 3BA
SALE
● PRIMROSE COTTAGE is a Detached Bungalow ● Two Bedrooms ● Dining Room or Third Bedroom ● Double Garage & Parking Space
WAS £229,950 SALE £215,000

HYDES ROAD, B71 2EG
NEW
● A three bedroom detached house ● Off road parking and garage ● No upward chain ● Central heating and majority double glazing
£180,000

BEACONSFIELD STREET, B71 1PU
SALE
● A Semi Detached Property ● Three Bedrooms ● Garage, C/H and D/G ● In Need of Modernisation
WAS £120,000 SALE PRICE £110,000

WALSALL ROAD, B71 3HH
● A Two Bedroomed End Terrace ● Part C/H and Part D/G ● Off Road Parking ● Freehold
£99,950

PENNYHILL LANE, B71 3RP
● A Detached Dormer Bungalow ● Two Bedrooms ● Off Road Parking & Garage ● Fore & Rear Gardens, Freehold
£169,950

BANK STREET, B71 1HF
SALE
● A Modern Link Detached Property ● Three Bedrooms ● C/H & D/G ● Off Road Parking
WAS £135,000 SALE PRICE £134,500

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

132 WALSALL ROAD, STONE CROSS, WEST BROMWICH B71 3HP

AEPM
APEX ESTATE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
FindaProperty.com rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website

LOCAL LETTINGS · LOCAL LETTINGS · LOCAL LETTINGS

WEST BROMWICH
OVERTON PLACE
NEW
Refurbished 2 bedroom flat near sandwell hospital, reception room, ch and dg, communial car park.
£450

WEST BROMWICH
ST.VINCENT CRESCENT
3 bedroom sem-detached property, reception room, dining area, ch & dg. Front and rear gardens.
£525

WEST BROMWICH
HALLAM STREET
NEW
2 bedroom property, spacious reception room, kitchen and dining space ch and dg, first floor bathroom, available fully furnished. near sandwell hospital
£500

TIPTON
HOLCROFT STREET
3 bedroom mid-terrace property, 2 reception rooms, central heated and double glazed, ground floor bathroom. unfurnished
£475

WEST BROMWICH
GRAFTON ROAD
LET
3 bed semi-detached property, CH and DG, spacious lounge, situated near Sandwell hospital.
£550 PCM

TIPTON
KENILWORTH CLOSE
NEW
Three bedroom link detached property, large reception room, CH and DG, garage and drive.
£575 PCM

WEST BROMWICH
OAK ROAD
Three bedroom terrace property, two reception rooms, CH and DG, unfurnished.
£450 PCM

WEST BROMWICH
HERBERT STREET
1 bedroom first floor maisonnette, ch & Dg with some kitchen appliances, spacious lounge and bedroom.
£370

TIPTON
SPRING MEADOW
Lovely 1 bedroom flat, open plan kitchen, storage heaters, double glazed window. allocated parking
£550

TIPTON
VICTORIA ROAD
APPLICATION IN
2 bedroom bunglow with reception room, lounge. shower room, ch and dg off rod parking. unfurnished
£475

WEST BROMWICH
HERBERT STREET
NEW
Spacious one bedroom ground floor maisonnette, spacious lounge, kitchen with appliances, ch and dg.
£375

WEST BROMWICH
GORDON AVENUE
NEW
beautiful 3 bedroom property, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen with dining area, ch & dg, first floor bathroom, large rear garage.
£550

WEST BROMWICH
HALL GREEN ROAD
LET
3 bedroom semi-detached property, 2 reception rooms, ch & dg, downstairs w.c and 1st floor shower room, unfurnished. Stone cross area
£550

GREAT BARR
HIGHFIELD ROAD
3 bedroom sem-detached property, spacious lounge, dining area, central heated and double glazed, first floor bathroom, part furnished off road parking for multiple cars.
£600

WEST BROMWICH
HALL GREEN ROAD
Very Spacious 3 bedroom maisonnete, large reception room, central heated and double glazed, fitted kitchen and bathroom
£550

WEST BROMWICH
SAMS LANE
2 bedroom mid-terrace property, 2 reception rooms, ch & dg, first floor bathroom, unfurnished property.
£465

SMETHWICK
BERTRAM ROAD
NEW
3 Bedroom property, 2 reception rooms, central heated and double glazed, unfurnished.
£450

WEDNESBURY
BEEBEE ROAD
LET
3 Bedroom semi-detached property, 2 reception rooms, ch & dg newly refurbished, private drive and garage, unfurnished.
£550

WEST BROMWICH
HALLAM STREET
3 bedroom sacious property, large reception room, central heated and double glazed, available part furnished
£550

TIPTON
HARPER GROVE
2 bedroom modern ground floor apartment, large reception room, central heated and double glazed, unfurnished. allocated parking
£490

LANDLORDS
Urgent properties wanted in the Sandwell area, quality working tenants waiting
FREE Rent Guarantee
FREE Legal Cover
FREE Unlimited Advertising
FREE Rental Appraisal
FREE Regular Inspections and inventories
NO Set Up Fees

7 Bull Street, West Bromwich, B70 6EU
Tel: (0121) 532 2700 Fax: (0121) 532 2669

Taylors

www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

KINGSWINFORD	NETHERTON	BRIERLEY HILL
818 High Street 01384 401777	75 Halesowen Road 01384 458222	84-86 High Street 01384 265265
STOURBRIDGE	**BEARWOOD**	
85 High Street 01384 395555	129 Poplar Road 0121 434 4345	
HALESOWEN	**SEDGLEY**	**BLACKHEATH**
21 Hagley Road 0121 550 3978	2A Dudley Street 01902 880888	12 Market Place 0121 559 6386

Visit us at our website
www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk

SMETHWICK

Gladys Road

An opportunity to acquire an extremely spacious, thoughtfully improved and well presented, 2 bedroomed intermediate terraced property set within this popular convenient neighborhood. Having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising. Delightful lounge, separate dining room, attractive kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 2 good sized bedrooms, super spacious loft and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. Bearwood office 0121 434 4345

Offers Around: £129,950

OLDBURY

Princess Road

Delightfully presented, spacious, thoughtfully improved 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property having majority double glazing, gas radiator heating and briefly comprising:- Entrance vestibule, delightful lounge, super re-fitted breakfast kitchen (with oven/hob), 3 bedrooms, re-fitted bathroom and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. Bearwood Office 0121 434 4345

Offers Around: £119,500

SMETHWICK

Beechfield Road

An opportunity to acquire a deceptively spacious, well presented and thoughtfully improved, 2 bedroomed intermediate terraced property which truly requires an internal inspection to be fully appreciated, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, delightful spacious open plan through lounge with dining area, attractive kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, re-fitted bathroom and pleasant low maintenance rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. Viewing BEARWOOD office 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £100,000

SMETHWICK

Milton Road

Deceptively spacious, well proportioned 2 Bedroomed intermediate terraced property having majority gas radiator heating and double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, spacious lounge, breakfast kitchen, rear vestibule area (with downstairs w.c., off), 2 good sized bedrooms, bathroom and rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. Viewing Bearwood Office 0121 434 4345

offers around £84,950

OLDBURY

Tame Rise

An opportunity to acquire a deceptively spacious, attractively presented and thoughtfully improved 2 bedroomed family home in a pleasant position, having double glazing, gas radiator heating, truly requiring internal inspection and briefly comprising: Porch, entrance hall, delightful through lounge with dining area (having feature fireplace), attractive kitchen, 2 good sized bedrooms, bathroom, pleasant rear garden and off road parking at the rear. No upward chain. Ideal first time purchase. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £105,000

BEARWOOD

Galton Road

An opportunity to acquire a deceptively spacious, 3 bedroomed intermediate terraced property set within this popular neighbourhood, most convenient for local shopping facilities, amenities and local park, having gas radiator heating and briefly comprising:- Entrance hall, lounge opening through to dining area, kitchen, breakfast room/study, downstairs shower/wet room, 3 bedrooms, additional shower room and rear garden. No upward chain. Viewing essential. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £147,500

QUINTON

QUINTON ROAD WEST

A chance to acquire a deceptively spacious, well proportioned 4 bedroomed semi-detached property conveniently situated, requiring internal inspection, having double glazing, gas radiator heating and briefly comprising: Entrance hall (with downstairs WC off), spacious lounge, dining room opening through to sitting room, study, fitted kitchen (having oven/hob), side passage/utility area, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking and rear garden. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £164,950

HARBORNE

Sheepmoor Close

Occupying a pleasant position within this popular, convenient neighbourhood, providing delightful outlook towards park, this deceptively spacious, well presented ground floor flat truly requires internal inspection to be fully appreciated, having double glazing, warm air heating and briefly comprising Communal entrance, hall, spacious through lounge, attractive kitchen, double bedroom, re-fitted bathroom, communal gardens and garage in separate block. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £108,000

SMETHWICK

Milton Court

An attractive, deceptively spacious, 2 bedroomed flat situated within this retirement complex most convenient for local shopping facilities available within Bearwood Town Centre, approached via a communal entrance and briefly comprising: Entrance hall (with intercom receiver), attractive lounge, kitchen, 2 good sized bedrooms, bathroom, communal garden and communal parking area. No upward chain. BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345

Offers around £76,500

TIPTON

Oxford Way

A SPACIOUS, beautifully presented, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated family home with extremely flexible accommodation set in now well established/convenient cul-de-sac. Accommodation includes to the Ground Floor: entrance hall, study, utility room, fitted cloakroom. To the First Floor: landing, living room, dining room, kitchen with a fine range of units, and a fitted cloakroom. To the Second Floor: THREE BEDROOMS (principal room with dressing room & shower room en suite), bathroom. Garage, neat secluded rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950

TIPTON

Oxford Way

This conscientiously maintained, modern style, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated two bedroom home is beautifully presented throughout and simply must be viewed to fully appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. The property, which may particularly appeal to first time buyers, briefly comprises stylish lounge, dining kitchen with a fine range of units, guest w.c., two double bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, burglar alarm, parking for two cars & a low maintenance rear garden. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £109,950

SMETHWICK

Ballot Street

An opportunity to acquire a spacious, well presented and thoughtfully improved, 3 bedroomed maissonette conveniently situated for local shopping facilities and amenities. The property truly requires internal inspection and briefly comprises :- entrance vestibule, delightful spacious lounge, rear hall (with downstairs w.c., off), re-fitted breakfast kitchen (having oven/hob), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., small garden area and allocated parking space. VIEWING BEARWOOD OFFICE 0121 434 4345.

Offers around £84,950

OLDBURY
0121 544 9595
86 BIRMINGHAM STREET

BEARWOOD
0121 420 4646
602 BEARWOOD ROAD

DEREK SPIRES
ESTATE AGENTS

BRANDHALL ROAD, OLDBURY

Full inspection is highly recommended for this modern style detached residence situated on one of the most sought after residential neighbourhoods in Oldbury. The property requires a certain amount of upgrading and briefly comprises reception hall, fitted cloakroom, open plan lounge/diner, kitchen, side covered passageway, three bedrooms, bathroom, side garage, garden. Freehold

Offers based on £175,000

Viewing Oldbury Office

NEW

KENELM ROAD, OLDBURY

Situated in a quiet residential locality close to Wolverhampton Road this first floor maisonette offers good accommodation with the benefit of double glazing and electric night storage heating, briefly comprises: entrance hall, two bedrooms, spacious lounge, kitchen, bathroom, large storm porch, sun terrace, garage.

Offers based on £59,950

Viewing Oldbury Office

REDUCED

BLOXCIDGE STREET, OLDBURY

Situated in an established residential neighbourhood this spacious Victorian detached residence offers good family accommodation with the benefit of double glazing and gas fired central heating. Full internal inspection is highly ecommended and the property briefly comprises large reception hall, front lounge, open plan dining room, fitted kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom, ground floor toilet and utility, brick paved driveway with side space for possible for garaging, enclosed rear garden, freehold.

Offers based on £269,500

Viewing Oldbury Office

REDUCED

MOAT ROAD, OLDBURY

Situated in a desirable residential locality of Oldbury this excellently presented traditional detached residence offers good family accommodation and requires full internal inspection to be appreciated. The property has double glazing and gas central heating and includes storm porch, reception hall, guest shower room, front dining room, extended rear lounge, conservatory, dining kitchen, utility, four bedrooms, bathroom, detached garage, gardens fore and rear. Freehold.

£329,950

Viewing: Oldbury Office

REDUCED

HOLCROFT STREET, TIPTON

Situated in an established residential location close to Burnt Tree Island this well presented traditional mid terrace offers good accommodation with the benefit of three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom, garden, freehold.

Offers based on: £92,000

Viewing: Bearwood Office

REDUCED

WINDSOR ROAD, OLDBURY

Situated in a popular convenient residential locality close to the Wolverhampton Road, this well presented extended tradiional semi-detached offers good accommodation with the benefit of double glazing and gas fired central heating, briefly comprises reception hall, through lounge, extended kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, gardens fore and rear, garage space to rear. Freehold

Offers based on £146,950

Viewing Oldbury Office

CASTLE ROAD

Enjoying an extremely convenient location in an established neighbourhood just off the main Wolverhampton Road, a traditional style freehold semi-detached residence with extended ground floor accommodation, gas centrally heated and double glazed to include enclosed porch, hall, through lounge/dining room, superb conservatory, utility area, refitted kitchen, downstairs washroom/WC, three bedrooms, fully tiled shower room, mature south-facing garden and off-street parking to the front with the benefit of comprehensive day-to-day amenities close at hand.

Offers based on £144,950

Viewing Bearwood Office

OAKWOOD ROAD

Occupying a pleasant and extremely popular residential situation, a much improved freehold terraced property offering gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation to include inter-communicating through lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen, fully tiled bathroom with shower, two double bedrooms, storage facilities and easily maintained gardens, having a pleasant open outlook at the rear, within easy reach of comprehensive day-to-day amenities and being ideal for first time purchasers.

Offers based on £102,500

Viewing Bearwood Office

BARSTON ROAD, OLDBURY

Recently improved to a high standard a traditional style freehold semi-detached residence offering gas centrally heated and double glazed accommodation to include three bedrooms, refitted bathroom with shower, hall, lounge, spacious well fitted dining/kitchen, enclosed side entrance, mature gardens and garage, having the benefit of off street parking for at least two cars to the front.

Offers based on £147,950

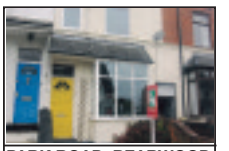
Viewing: Bearwood Office

RAWLINGS ROAD, BEARWOOD

A pleasantly situated and extremely well presented traditional style freehold villa residence located in this popular neighbourhood within easy reach of Bearwood High Street, offering gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed accommodation to include three bedrooms, two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom and garden to the rear, being ideally suited for first time buyers.

Offers based on £125,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office



PARK ROAD, BEARWOOD

A deceptively spacious and well presented mid terraced villa residence located in this pleasant and extremely popular throughfare, being within easy reach of Lightwoods Park and Warley Woods and offering gas centrally heated and mostly PVC double glazed accommodation to include three bedrooms, fully tiled and refitted bathroom, split level through lounge/dining room, superbly presented refitted kitchen/breakfast room and garden to the rear, having comprehensive day to day amenities close at hand to include easy access to Birmingham city centre and with internal inspection to be appreciated.

Offers based on: £168,000

Viewing: Bearwood Office

BOWLING GREEN DRIVE, BEARWOOD

A deceptively spacious, attractively presented and well fitted modern semi detached residence located at the head of a quiet, recently established residential close, and offering gas central heating and double glazed accommodation to include three bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, half tiled house bathroom, well proportioned lounge, excellent fitted dining kitchen, utility room or garage, off street parking, pleasant laid out garden, having the benefit of a good range of day to day amenities within easy reach to include Warley Woods and requiring full internal inspection to be appreciated.

Offers based on £209,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office

PUBLIC AUCTION

Our next collective auction sale is scheduled for

MONDAY 31st JANUARY 2011

at **6.30pm** at

The Portland, 241 Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B17 8LS

LOT1: **222 BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 9NK**
Traditional Freehold, double fronted 2 bedroom semi-detached, centrally heated and double glazed, but needing improvement.....**£85 - £90,000**

LOT 2: **26 KESTREL ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 8AS**
Freehold 3 bedroomed semi-detached, part double glazed and part centrally heated.....**£90 - £100,000**

LOT 3: **214 MONTAGUE ROAD, SMETHWICK, B66 4PN**
Freehold 3 bedroomed terrace with central hetaing, needing some improvement.....**£circa. £75,000**

LOT 4: **1 WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD, B67 5HN**
1 bedroomed ground floor self-contained flat ...**£75 - £85,000**

LOT 5: **398 CITY ROAD, TIVIDALE, B69 1QZ**
Traditional centrally heated and double glazed 3 bedroomed end terrace, needing some upgrading .....**£60-£65,000**

LOT 6: **116 BROADMOOR AVENUE, SMETHWICK, B67 6JU**
Freehold semi-detached 2 bedroomed, centrally heated property in need of some general modernisation.....**£80-£85,000**

LOT 7: **33 CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY, B68 0EN**
Traditional Freehold, centrally heated 3 bedroomed semi-detached, in need of some general improvement.....**£100 - £110,000**

Please call Derek Spires or Steven Baker for your FREE valuation

For further information on any aspect of selling

Or for a catalogue please contact Derek Spires Estate Agents

Tel: **0121 420 4646**

Traditional values, modern techniques

humberstones homes

0121 678 7788

www.humberstoneshomes.co.uk

KENELM COURT, HALESOWEN

- Superb 2 bed detached bungalow
- Benefiting new DBG & GCH boiler
- Refitted kitchen with built in appliances
- Lounge/dining rm over looking rear gardens
- Off road parking & enclosed rear garden
- Internal inspection essential to appreciate property

£167,500 Ref: D1013

EDINBURGH ROAD, OLDBURY

- Spacious & modernised end terraced home
- Two double bedrooms & refitted bathroom
- Refitted kitchen with built in oven & hob
- Lounge diner with double doors to garden
- GCH & majority UPVC double glazing
- UPVC soffits & fascias & security system

£112,500 Ref: D1007

BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

- Well presented 3 bed mid terraced home
- Situated in popular residential area
- Lounge, Refitted kitchen diner& utility
- Bathroom with Whirlpool bath
- Well tended gardens to front & rear
- UPVC DBG, GCH & security system

£109,950 Ref: D1006

Big SALE

January Sale

Big SALE

up to 10% off selected properties

BISHOPS WALK, CRADLEY HEATH

- Five bedroom home with double garage
- No upward chain - vacant possession
- Lounge, sep dining room & study
- Breakfast kitchen, utility room & d/s WC
- Master bed with en-suite shower room
- Fitted with UPVC d/g & GCH

now £299,950 was £309,950

MONMOUTH ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Detached family home with garage
- Extended lounge & dining room
- Extended & fitted breakfast kitchen
- 3 bedrooms & family bathroom
- Attractive lawned garden to rear
- UPVC double glazing & GCH fitted

now £249,950 was £269,950

WOODRIDGE AVENUE, QUINTON

- Modern 4 bed detached home
- Lounge, dining kitchen & UPVC conservatory
- Downstairs WC & first floor bathroom
- Off road parking & integral garage
- Majority UPVC double glazing
- Benefiting GCH & security system

now £189,950 was £199,950

HIGH HADEN ROAD, HIGH HADEN AREA

- Detached family home with lovely views
- Lounge, sep dining room & downstairs WC
- Breakfast kitchen & separate utility
- Three bedrooms & family bathroom
- Rear gardens, driveway & garage
- Fitted with double glazing & GCH

now £189,950 was £195,000

MAYFIELD ROAD, HALESOWEN

- Refurbished & detached 2 bed bungalow
- Refitted kitchen with built in appliances
- Refitted bathroom with shower cubicle
- Lounge with fitted feature gas fire
- UPVC double glazing & GCH fitted
- Garage attached to side & rear court yard

now £166,950 was £169,950

GRAFTON ROAD, OLDBURY

- 3 bed home with driveway & garage
- Kitchen with built in appliances
- 2 recep rms & conservatory/breakfast rm
- 3 bedrooms & bathroom on first floor
- UPVC double glazing & GCH
- Well proportioned enclosed rear garden

now £154,950 was £156,950

WHEATCROFT CLOSE, HALESOWEN

- Extended 4 bed semi detached home
- Open plan kitchen with dining area
- Separate lounge with bay window
- Downstairs shower room with WC
- Off road parking & side garage
- UPVC d/g, fascias & soffits

now £159,950 was £165,000

WINDSOR ROAD, OLDBURY

- Extended semi-det home with garage & conservatory
- Fitted kitchen with appliances & d/s WC
- 2 reception rooms
- Refitted shower room & 3 bedrooms
- Low maintenance gardens to front & rear
- No upward chain - vacant possession

now £129,995 was £149,950

WHEATCROFT CLOSE, HALESOWEN

- Semi detached home in Cul-de-Sac
- No upward chain - vacant possession
- Extended Kitchen & lounge/dining room
- Three bedrooms & bathroom
- Off road parking & side garage
- GCH & Double Glazing

now £144,950 was £149,950

MASTERS LANE, HALESOWEN

- Deceptively spacious 3 bed family home
- Breakfast kitchen, lounge & dining rm
- Downstairs WC - integral garage
- Blockpaved off road parking to front
- Enclosed rear garden
- Majority UPVC d/g & GCH

now £135,000 was £139,950

BRITANNIA ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS

- Terraced home with vehicular rear access
- 15ft 8 lounge & 12ft 3 breakfast kitchen
- 2 bedrooms & bathroom (white suite)
- UPVC double glazing & gas central heating
- Gardens to both front & rear
- Rear garden having pot. for vehicular access

now £84,950 was £87,500

NEW JOHN STREET, HALESOWEN

- Spacious terraced home with driveway
- No upward chain - vacant possession
- Two reception rooms & kitchen
- Two double bedrooms & bathroom
- GCH & part UPVC double glazing
- Lawned gardens to rear of property.

now £89,950 was £94,950

NAEA rightmove.co.uk fish4homes

wli.uk.com

PROPERTY CONSULTANCY

SALES & LETTINGS

OFT

101 High Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands B70 6NZ Tel: 0121 525 9090
WE LOVE iCASA, 33 Granville Street, Birmingham B1 2LJ Tel: 0121 285 7575
Gresham Chambers, 14 Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1DG Tel: 01902 504 504
WLI, UK House, Cross Lane, Great Bar, West Midlands B43 6LN Tel: 01922 214 500

Now ❤ knowing you can view all of our properties on line

Pershore Road Birmingham

Substantial 8 bedroom Property with Driveway
All Double Bedrooms with en-suits to all
Front & Rear Gardens
Newly Fitted Kitchen

£1,200pcm

Oldbury Road Rowley Regis

Very Spacious 2 Bed Apartment
Brand New, Unlived In
Close to all amenities
Off Road Parking, Intercom Entry

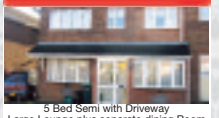
£575pcm

Bristol Road South Longbridge

3 Bed Part Furnished Flat
Well Presented and Spacious
Off Road Parking, Great Central Location
WE LOVE CITY CENTRE LIVING

£550 PCM

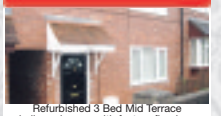
Buckingham Road Rowley Regis



5 Bed Semi with Driveway
Large Lounge plus separate dining Room
Conservatory, Front & Rear Gardens
3 Double and 2 single bedrooms

£625pcm

Woodcross Lane Bilston/Cosely



Refurbished 3 Bed Mid Terrace
hallway, lounge with feature fireplace
Fitted Kitchen, New Carpets
Newly Decorated, Front & Rear Gardens

£550pcm

Heron House, Bell Street HERON HOUSE

2 bedroom new build apartment with
Allocated Parking
Intercom Entry
Working Professionals Required

£525 PCM

Pottery Lane Oldbury

Well Presented 3 Bed Flat
Fitted Kitchen with Breakfast Bar
Set Over 2 Floors
Great Location

£525pcm

Wilton Road Handsworth

2/3 Bed Terrace
Front Porch
2 Reception Rooms
Back Yard

£525pcm

Legge Street West Bromwich

3 Bed Terrace 2 mins from Town Centre
2 Reception Rooms, Downstairs Bathroom
Utility Area, Double Glazed & Centrally Heated
2 Double and 1 single bedroom

£525pcm

Gravelly Lane Erdington

Fully Furnished 2 bed Terrace
Excellent Location Close to Motorway Links
2 Reception Rooms, Back yard
2 Double bedrooms

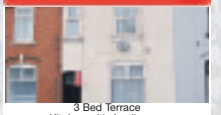
£500 pcm

Sanders Crescent Tipton

2 Bed Ground Floor Apartment
Off Road Parking
Modern & Well Presented
Intercom Entry

£525pcm

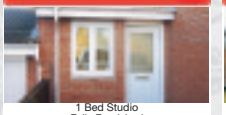
Oak Road West Bromwich



3 Bed Terrace
Kitchen with Appliances
Close to Town Centre
Double Glazed and Centrally Heated

£450pcm

Brades Rise Oldbury



1 Bed Studio
Fully Furnished
Sought after Location
Rent inclusive of bills

£430

Sorrell Drive Tamebridge

1 bedroom 1st floor maisonette
Double glazed
Good location
Off Road Parking

£425 PCM

Salisbury House, Lily Sreet West Bromwich

1 Bed Flat/Studio, with appliances
Off Road Parking, intercom Entry
Double Glazed, Electric Heating
Balcony, Great Location

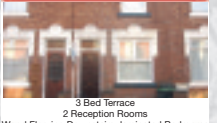
£350pcm

Inkberrow Road Halesowen

1 Bed Studiowith En-Suit Facilities
Off Road Parking
Shared Kitchen Facilities
Rent Includes Bills

£350pcm

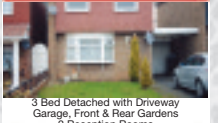
Sheridan Street West Bromwich



3 Bed Terrace
2 Reception Rooms
Wood Flooring Downstairs, laminated Bedrooms
Downstairs Bathroom

£550pcm

St Davids Road West Bromwich



3 Bed Detached with Driveway
Garage, Front & Rear Gardens
2 Reception Rooms
Fitted Kitchen with Appliances

£580pcm

Watt Road Tipton

3 Bed Semi with Driveway
Front Porch, Lounge/Diner with laminated Flooring
Fitted Kitchen, Rear Garden
2 Double and 1 Single Bedroom

£525pcm

Harvestfields Rowley Regis

Large Modern 3 Bed Apartments
High Specification and Thoughtfully Designed
En-Suite to Master Bedroom
Large Hallways and Plenty of Storage

£575 pcm

Royal Close Rowley Regis

3 Bed End Terrace in a cul-de-sac location
Garage & Driveway, Outhouse
Lounge and Dining Room with laminated Floors
Modern Fitted Kitchen, New Carpet Upstairs

£550pcm

Avalon Close Erdington

Modern 2 Bed First Floor Maisonette
Currently Being Redocorated
Fitted Kitchen and Neutral Decor
Close to Motorway Links

£500pcm

Bristol Road Birmingham

1 Bed Studio with Off Road Parking
Can be Offered Furnished or Unfurnished
Rent includes Bills
Working Applicants Only

£445pcm

Monk Close Tipton

Refurbished 3 Bed Terrace with Front Porch
Newly Carpeted and Decorated
Refurbished fitted Kitchen
New Bathroom Suit, Front & Rear Gardens

£550pcm

Scott Street Great Bridge

2 Bed Apartment
Allocated Off Road Parking
Sought After Location
Available February 2011

£550pcm

OBSLUGA W JEZYKU POLSKIM

[illegible] 01922 214500

WE SERVE YOU IN POLISH

[illegible] 01922 214500

twitter Now follow us on twitter and facebook.

MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS
CHRONICLE MOTORING
powered by motors.co.uk

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.3 CDTi ECOFLEX

ROAD TEST

Astra ups its game and takes top spot

December saw Vauxhall's Astra return to the top spot as the UK's best selling car for the month.

In its decades-old battle with the Ford Focus and previously the Ford Escort, the Astra has often come out on top.

The battle has been played out across a number of scenarios from the Astra GTE versus Escort RS Turbo conflict of the late 1980s to the soft tops of the mid nineties, but in these more austere times the contest is not to be the fastest or most glamorous, but to be the most frugal.

As might be expected where these two vehicles are concerned, the efficiency specialist line-ups are similar, with both Vauxhall and Ford offering stop-start and non-stop-start equipped versions of their economical family hatchbacks.

The non-stop-start versions have a cheaper initial purchase price but lose out, albeit marginally, in terms of fuel economy and emissions.

With the Astra, this is less of an issue than with the Focus because, whereas the addition of stop-start drops the 1.6-litre diesel Focus Econetic from 104g/km to 99g/km CO2 emissions and thus from tax band B to free of charge A, the Vauxhall drops from 109g/km to 104g/km, remaining in tax band B.

The Astra loses that battle, then, but not necessarily the war, as it works hard to make up for the initial shortcomings elsewhere. The biggest thorn in Ford's side comes in the form of the Astra's interior.

The Focus' upmarket, high quality interior has been a large part of its 'class-leading' appeal, but the current generation of Astra has upped its game in this regard.

Ride quality is very good in the Astra

The Astra's cabin is of higher quality

The Astra Ecoflex is the green version of the long-lived model, with good economy

There's a high quality ambience in the cabin, giving the Astra a mini-Insignia feel. Material quality is very good and plastics are soft to the touch but sturdy. In the Exclusiv model, soft lighting beneath the gear lever surround and in the door handle moulds is a premium touch and the chunky, sturdy feel to the steering wheel is replicated around the interior, in the metal rimmed knobs and the solid column stalks.

The Astra holds its own against its closest rival from the outside, too. Like the Focus the Astra boasts a contemporary design that's attractive but refined and sensible.

The Ecoflex model needn't suffer visually for its greener emphasis, either. 17-inch alloy wheels are optional, to replace the flush-covered steels as standard. The revised aero package does little to harm the Astra's attractive exterior lines and the automatic aero-flap behind the grille is discreetly hidden. A particularly keen eye may even spot the marginally lowered suspension, which reduces drag alongside the low-rolling resistance tyres.

However, the major changes, although still hidden from view, are more noticeable. The taller gearing, for example, which comes courtesy of a longer final drive ratio, affecting all five-forward gears. The positive side is that high speed and long distance cruises are more refined thanks to lower rpm. This works well with the Astra's impressive ride quality, even on the revised suspension.

It does result in less inspiring straight line performance than some eco rivals, however. Using a smaller capacity diesel engine seems like an obvious way to reduce fuel consumption and works very well around town, but when greater acceleration is required the 1.3-litre unit does need to be pushed harder and kept above 2,500rpm for any real performance. This means the engine remains audible in the cabin, too, particularly when cold.

A lower idling speed counters this slightly in the standard Ecoflex model, but not as much as the zero-idling philosophy of the stop-start equipped model.

On the move, the Astra can hold its head high. Ride quality is very good – of benefit to driver and passengers – and the chassis is responsive but predictable and secure. ESP is part of a respectable list of standard equipment (although electric rear windows are omitted for weight saving), an important factor for a family car.

Similarly, an accommodating interior boosts the family appeal. Boot space behind the hatch is conveniently proportioned with a bigger opening than initially appears from the outside. The rear bench will accept two adults with little fuss, too, with good access offered by the five-door layout.

The on-paper figures suggest that the Astra hasn't quite trumped the Focus in the battle to be greenest, but the stylish and noticeably well-built model is impressive enough to keep the contest alive for the foreseeable future.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

Model: Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Ecoflex Exclusiv, £18,005 on the road. Engine: 1.3-litre turbocharged petrol unit developing 95bhp and 140lb/ft of torque. Transmission: Five-speed manual transmission, driving the front wheels. Performance: Maximum speed 109mph, 0-62mph 13.8 seconds. CO2 emissions: 138g/km. Economy: 68.9mpg.

Test by RICHARD H HAMMAND

T. WALL GRAND VAN SALE!

"Serving the Black Country and Beyond!"

YOUR LOCAL 1 STOP SHOP FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

MAIN DEALERS FOR FORD AND VAUXHALL

RETAIL Nil Deposit Finance Lease

SMALL VANS/CAR DERIVED VANS

DY57UPP	**VAUXHALL COMBO 1700 1.3 CDTi CDB** Van. White, 55,517 miles	£4,795	£154.94
SJ57NKF	**VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN CLUB 1.9 CDTi CDV** Van. Silver, 43,153 miles	£5,995	£193.71
YE07PYG	**VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN SPORTIVE 1.7 CDTi CDV** Van. Black, 43,550 miles	£6,495	£209.87
YE07PYG	**VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN SPORTIVE 1.7 CDTi CDV** Van. Black, 43,550 miles	£6,495	£209.87
BJ09TPZ	**VAUXHALL COMBO 1700 1.7 CDTi CDV** Van. White, 25,776 miles	£6,995	£226.03

MEDIUM VANS

VK07BXE	**VAUXHALL VIVARO SWB 2702 2.0CDTi 115ps MCV** Van. SWB, low roof, White, 59,058 miles	£6,495	£209.87
VU08 MZY	**VAUXHALL VIVARO SWB 2702 2.0CDTi 115ps MCV** Van. SWB, low roof, White, 54,115 miles	£6,995	£226.03
VK08XSL	**FORD TRANSIT 260 SWB 2.0 TDCi 85ps MCV** Van. Medium roof, White, 51,245 miles	£7,495	£242.18
AA08CJJ	**VAUXHALL VIVARO LWB 2900 2.0 CDTi 90ps MCV** Van. LWB, low roof, White, 57,989 miles	£7,495	£242.18
AA08APU	**VAUXHALL VIVARO LWB 2900 2.0 CDTi 90ps MCV** Van. LWB, low roof, White, 54,247 miles	£7,495	£242.18
AF58BBZM	**VAUXHALL VIVARO LWB 2900 2.0 CDTi 115ps MCV** Van. LWB, low roof, White, 20,500 miles	£8,895	£290.65
BK09ZTL	**VAUXHALL VIVARO SWB 2700 2.0 CDTi 115ps MCV** Van. SWB, low roof, Silver, 23,000 miles	£9,895	£322.96

LARGE VANS

YT57EVB	**FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB 2.4 TDCi 100ps LCV** Van. High roof, White, 60,947 miles	£7,995	£258.34

4X4 PICK-UPS

BV07AVR	**MITSUBISHI L200 TROJAN 2.5 TDDi** 4x4 Pick-up Manual. Black, 6,678 miles	£9,995	£322.96
KL57WXR	**NISSAN NAVARA AVENTURA 1.5 TDCi** Auto 4x4 Pick-up. Black, 43,221	£12,995	£419.90
GF59URZ	**FORD RANGER THUNDER 2.5 TDCi** 4x4 Pick-up Manual. Blue, 21,326 miles	£15,495	£500.68

TIPPERS/DROPSIDE/LUTONS

PE57HBY	**FORD TRANSIT 350 MWB 2.4 TDCi 100ps** Tipper, One Stop 10.6, White, 52,142 miles	£9,995	£322,96
NH57DAO	**FORD TRANSIT DbI CAB 2.4 TDCi 100ps** Steel Tipper. White, 48,000 miles	£9,995	£322.96

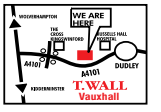
Fantastic Deals on all New Commercials

PART EXCHANGE WELCOME | NIL DEPOSIT FINANCE AVAILABLE | NEW PRE-REG USED | WE CAN COME TO YOU

T. WALL VANS 01384 288333 or 07802 755289

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford, DY6 8XB

www.twallcommercials.co.uk or Autotrader.co.uk and Ebaymotors.co.uk



*Business Users Only, Terms and Conditions Apply *Finance based on 3x47 Lease Hire Agreement * All vehicle prices subject to VAT

"NO HIDDEN EXTRAS"

58 Reg	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.9 CDTi SRi COUPE** (Diesel) (150), Black, Alloys, CD, AC, 27,000 miles	£8995
57 Reg	**JAGUAR X TYPE 2.2 D SOVEREIGN** (Diesel) Gold, Alloys, CD, AC, Full Leather, Sat Nav, 77,000 miles	£9995
57 Reg	**TOYOTA AVENSIS 2.2 T3 X D-4D** (Diesel) **ESTATE** Metallic Grey. Alloys, CD, AC, 62,000 miles	£8495
57 Reg	**FORD C-MAX 1.8 TDCi ZETEC** (Diesel) Met Blue, Alloys, CD, AC, 50,000 miles	£7495
57 Reg	**VOLVO V50 1.6 D-S ESTATE** (Diesel), Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 60,000 miles	£8995
57 Reg	**FIAT PUNTO 1.2 DYNAMIC** 3-door. Black, Alloys, CD, AC, 20,000 miles	£4995
57 Reg	**RENAULT CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE** 3-dr. Metallic Blue, Alloys, CD, AC, 32,000 miles	£5495
57 Reg	**RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi CAMPUS SPORT** 3-dr. (Diesel) Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 22,000 miles	£5495
57 Reg	**SAAB 9-3 1.8T VECTOR ANNIVERSARY CONVERTIBLE** Metallic Grey, Alloys, CD, Air Con, Sat Nav, Full Leather, 23,000 miles	£11995
07 Reg	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB AUTO** 3-door. Gold Metallic, AC, CD, EW, 15,000 miles	£5995
07 Reg	**BMW 116i SE** 5-dr. Metallic Blue, Alloys, CD, Air Con, 46,000 miles	£8995
07 Reg	**VW TOURAN 1.9 TDi SE** (Diesel), 7 Seater, Grey Metallic, Alloys, CD, AC, 48,000 miles	£9995
07 Reg	**CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi PICASSO VTR+** (Diesel) 7 seater, Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, 41,000 miles	£7995

12 MONTH MOT INCLUDED
SERVICE INCLUDED
VALET INCLUDED
WARRANTY INCLUDED

07 Reg	**PEUGEOT 207 1.6HDi GT** (Diesel) 5-dr. Black, Alloys, CD, AC, Half Leather, Glass Roof, 42,000 miles	£7495
56 Reg	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi CLUB ESTATE** (Diesel) **(100)** Metallic Blue, Alloys, CD, Air Con, 72,000 miles	£4995
56 Reg	**MERCEDES C180 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE SE** Black, Alloys, CD, AC, 1/2 leather, 56,000 miles	£10,995
56 Reg	**VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 SRi CDTi (150)** (Diesel) Black. Alloys, CD, AC, 46,000 miles	£6995
06 Reg	**LEXUS 220D iS** (Diesel) Metallic Red, Alloys, CD, Air Con, 98,000 miles	£6995
06 Reg	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN AUTO** 5-door. Silver, Alloys, CD, AC, Half Leather, 24,000 miles	£4995
06 Reg	**HONDA CIVIC 2.2 CDTi SE** (Diesel) Light Metallic Blue. Alloys, CD, AC, 61,000 miles	£7495
06 Reg	**AUDI A6 2.0 TDi S-LINE** Estate (Diesel), Metallic Grey, Alloys, CD, AC, 1/2 Leather, 70,000 miles	£11995
55 Reg	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LIFE** 5-dr. Silver, CD, Electric Windows, 37,000 miles	£3695
55 Reg	**CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 HDi DESIRE** (Diesel) **(110)** Silver, CD, AC, 39,000 miles	£5495
04 Reg	**FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE** In Met Red, power steering, electric windows, 34,000 miles	£2695
04 Reg	**MAZDA MX5 1.6 EUPHONIC** Black, Alloys, CD, Full Red & Black Leather, 44,000 miles	£5995
53 Reg	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi** 5-dr. Metallic Green, Alloys, CD, electric windows, 64,000 miles	£3495
52 Reg	**BMW 316 T COMPACT** Silver. Alloys, CD, AC, 81,000 miles	£3495
51 Reg	**LANDROVER FREELANDER 1.8 GS** Gold. Alloys, CD, AC, 56,000 miles	£3495

CASH OR FINANCE - YOUR CHOICE

BLOOMFIELD CAR SALES.CO.UK

BLOOMFIELD CAR SALES

120 BLOOMFIELD ROAD, TIPTON, DY4 9ES

TEL: 0121 520 7760

email: bloomfieldcars@btconnect.com

Cars you can afford...

...from a name you can trust

- Family run father & son business with 30 years in the trade
- Fantastic peace of mind warranty available on every car
- All vehicles are serviced, MOT'd and have a 92 point checkover prior to delivery
- Part exchange your current car, van or motorbike
- Can't get finance - we can help
- Up to 5 years finance available
- Top part exchange Allowance
- Deposits from £99

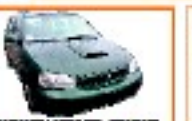
03 REG RENAULT ESPACE 3.0 DCI PRIVILEGE
7 SEATER AUTOMATIC TURBO DIESEL

INCLUDES ALLOY, AIR CONDITIONING, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, ALLOY WHEELS, CD PLAYER, ROOF BARS, FRONT FOG LIGHTS, PARKING SENSORS, CRUISE CONTROL

£4999
260 WEEKS AT £24

£6999
260 £34

£3499
260 £17


£2999
150 £21

£3999
260 £19

£3299
260 £16

£12,999
260 £64

£4999
260 £24

£13999
260 £69

£6999
260 £34

£3999
260 £19

£4799
260 £23

£2999
260 £14

www.motorvillage.co.uk
your route to carefree motoring

Dudley Road, Lye, Stourbridge, DY9 8DU
01384 895965

EXAMPLE: CASH PRICE £3499, DEPOSIT £99, BALANCE TO FINANCE £3400. 260 WEEKS AT £17. TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE £4519. APR 14.1%

DUDLEY MOTOR COMPANY

SALE NOW ON

ON NEW & USED CAR

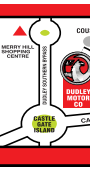
WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRI

20% OFF
Servicing, Repair & MOTs
on production of this advert!
Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer
Terms and conditions apply

Motabil
The leading car scheme for disabled

FOR ALL YOUR MOTABILITY NEEDS CONTACT TONY LISTER

TRINDLE RD., DUDLEY, DY2 7AY
01384 454100
www.dudleymotorco.co.uk



In partnership with Express & Star www.expressandstar.com/motors

WHY SWAP WHEN YOU CAN MAKE THE KIA 7 YEAR SWITCH?

£1,500
GUARANTEED TRADE-IN

A NEW PICANTO FROM JUST £5,870.

Switch to Kia's worry-free 7 year warranty with the Kia 7 Year Switch if your current car is between 7 and years old. *Standard Picanto features include:* • RDS Radio / CD Audio with MP3 Disc Compatibility • Twin Front Airbags • Front Electric Windows • ABS with Electronic Brakeforce Distribution (EBD) • Side Impact Protection System • Power Steering • ISOFIX Child Seat Top Tethers & Anchor Fittings

HUGHES GARAGE LTD
OVEREND ROAD, HALESOWEN B63 2SA Tel: 01384 564302

7 YEAR SWITCH

www.kia.co.uk

Mota
The leading car scheme

Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100 km) for the Picanto range are: Urban: 46.7 (7.3) - 49.6 (5.7). Extra urban: 54.3 (5.2) Combined: 47.9 (5.9) - 58.8 (4.8). CO2 emissions are 137 - 114 g/km.

7 year / 160,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. See your local dealer or visit www.kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Price correct at time of and specification is subject to change without notice. Model shown is PY11 1.2 Picanto 1 at £5,870 On The Road (OTR) including £1,500 trade-in allowance. includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic / mica paint is an extra £425 charge. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 03 January and 31 March 2011. 7 year switch offer excludes Pic is not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms and conditions apply - please see your local dealer for full details.

The **VAUXHALL**

COUNTDOWN 20% OFF

A new Vauxhall

Hurry. Offer ends 31st January 2011

100,000 MILE LIFETIME WARRANTY

60 PLATE STOCK CLEARANCE SAVE UP TO £6016

Corsa 1.4 Design 5 door

Black Sapphire, air con, alloys, cd player.

List price £14728

save £3870

NOW £10858

Astra Sport hatch 1.6 SXi

Power Red, aircon, alloys, sports seats.

List price £17287

save £5759

NOW £11528

Astra Sport hatch 1.6 Design

Choice of 2, Black Sapphire or Sovereign Silver alloys, part leather trim, air con.

List price £18498

save £6016

NOW £12482

••• NETWORK Q – QUALITY USED CARS FROM £3990 •••

2009/09 Vauxhall Agila 1.2 Design 5 Door Hatchback, White, 14084 miles	£7990
2010/10 Vauxhall Agila 1.2 Design Hatchback, Moroccan Blue, 12 miles	£8290
2009/09 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Active 5 Door Hatchback, Silver, 9100 miles	£9490
2010/60 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Design 3 Door Hatchback, Sovereign Silver, 20 miles	£12990
2010/10 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SRi 5 Door Hatchback, Grey, 600 miles	£12490
2010/59 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SRi XP Turbo Hatchback, Black Sapphire, 21000 miles	£11290
2010/60 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi 3 Door Sport Hatch, Black Sapphire, 20 miles	£12490
2010/60 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi 3 Door Sport Hatch, Flame Red, 20 miles	£11990
2009/59 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi 5 Door Hatchback, Silver, 22153 miles	£8490
2008/58 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 SXi 5 Door Hatchback, Star Silver, 15000 miles	£7990
2010/10 Vauxhall Astra 1.8 Design 3 Door Convertible, Silver, 6000 miles	£14990
2010/10 Vauxhall Astra 1.9 CDTi SRi XP 3 Door Hatchback Diesel, Black, 1000 miles	£14290
2010/10 Vauxhall Astra 2.0 CDTi SRi 5 Door Hatchback Diesel, Black, 8000 miles	£16990
2010/10 Vauxhall Astra 2.0 VXR Hatchback, Black Sapphire, 5500 miles	£15290
2009/59 Vauxhall Astra 2.0 VXR Hatchback, Power Red, 6441 miles	£14990
2008/58 Vauxhall Astra 2.0 VXR Hatchback, Silver Lightning, 10500 miles	£12490
2008/08 Vauxhall Corsa 1.0 Breeze 3 Door Hatchback, Red, 34000 miles	£5990
2008/08 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 Design 5 Door Hatchback, Lancelot (Gold), 25000 miles	£7490
2007/07 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 Design 5 Door Hatchback, Gold, 8988 miles	£6990
2010/10 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SE 3 Door Hatchback, Black, 500 miles	£9990
2008/08 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SXi 5 Door Hatchback, Red, 25000 miles	£6990
2008/08 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 Design 3 Door Hatchback Automatic, Black, 26549 miles	£7990
2010/60 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 Design 5 Door Hatchback, Black Sapphire, 20 miles	£11290
2009/59 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 Design Hatchback, Flame Red, 3935 miles	£7990
2007/07 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 SXi 5 Door Hatchback, Black, 31416 miles	£6990
2008/08 Vauxhall Corsa 1.6 VXR Turbo 3 Door Hatchback, Black, 24500 miles	£10990
2007/07 Vauxhall Corsa 1.6 VXR Turbo 3 Door Hatchback, Silver, 30475 miles	£9990
2007/57 Vauxhall Corsa 1.6 VXR Turbo Hatchback, Black Sapphire, 16456 miles	£9990
2009/09 Vauxhall Insignia 1.8 Exclusiv Hatchback, Silver Lightning, 21894 miles	£10490
2009/59 Vauxhall Meriva 1.3 CDTi Active 5 Door MPV Diesel, Black Sapphire, 6925 miles	£8990
2009/09 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Active Plus 5 Door MPV, Black, 20964 miles	£7990
2009/09 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Life MPV, Black Sapphire, 5839 miles	£6990
2009/59 Vauxhall Meriva 1.6 Club 5 Door MPV, Steel Blue, 2130 miles	£7990
2009/09 Vauxhall Meriva 1.6 Club 5 Door MPV, Silver, 6000 miles	£7990
2008/08 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 SRi Hatchback, Black Sapphire, 39000 miles	£7990
2005/55 Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 CDTi SRi 5 Door Hatchback Diesel, Blue, 45101 miles	£5490
2006/06 Vauxhall Vectra 2.8 VXR 5 Door Hatchback, Black, 23423 miles	£8990
2006/06 Vauxhall Zafira 1.6 Club 5 Door MPV, Silver Lightning, 40476 miles	£5990
2008/58 Vauxhall Zafira 1.9 CDTi Breeze 5 Door MPV, Silver, 26000 miles	£9990
2010/60 Chevrolet Captiva 2.0 VCDi LTZ 5 Door Estate Automatic Diesel, Black, 5250 miles	£22490
2007/57 Chevrolet Kalos 1.2 S 3 Door Hatchback, Silver, 10118 miles	£3990
2010/60 Chevrolet Lacetti 1.6 SX 5 Door Hatchback, Grey, 10 miles	£8490
2008/08 Chevrolet Lacetti 1.6 SX 5 Door Hatchback, Red, 8700 miles	£4990
2010/60 Chevrolet Spark 1.2 LT 5 Door Hatchback, Green Cocktail, 600 miles	£8990
2010/10 Chevrolet Spark 1.2 LT 5 Door Hatchback, Blue, 1500 miles	£7990
2009/59 Citroen C3 1.4 VTR 5 Door Hatchback, Silver, 12680 miles	£6490
2010/60 Citroen C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR+ 5 Door MPV Diesel, Choice of colours! 6 miles	£10990
2008/08 Citroen C4 Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR+ 5 Door MPV Automatic Diesel, Silver, 25000 miles	£9990
2007/57 Citroen C4 Picasso 2.0 Exclusive 5 Door MPV Automatic, Blue, 7400 miles	£9990
2009/09 Citroen C4 Picasso 2.0 HDi VTR+ 5 Door MPV Diesel, Arctic Steel, 7851 miles	£11990
2008/58 Citroen C5 2.0 HDi VTR+ 4 Door Saloon Diesel, Black, 15550 miles	£10990
2007/07 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso 2.0 SX 5 Door MPV Automatic, Black, 30707 miles	£6990
2007/07 Ford Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate 5 Door Hatchback Diesel, Black, 43105 miles	£5990
2007/07 Mazda MX-5 2.0 Z Sport 2 Door Convertible, Maroon, 40000 miles	£8990
2007/07 Mini Cooper 1.6 3 Door Hatchback, Blue, 33000 miles	£9990
2008/08 Mitsubishi Colt 1.5 CZC2 2 Door Convertible, Blue, 10861 miles	£6990
2008/08 Peugeot 207 1.4 S 3 Door Hatchback, Blue, 14000 miles	£6490
2005/55 Peugeot 407 SW 1.6 HDi SE 5 Door Estate Diesel, Gold, 27101 miles	£5990
2009/58 Toyota iQ 1.0 VVT-i 2 3 Door Hatchback Automatic, White, 26000 miles	£7990

Brindley Vauxhall
08430 221183

57 Bridge Street
Wednesbury
West Midlands
WS10 0AH

www.brindleyvauxhall.co.uk

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO_2 emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

20% saving applies to list price only and excludes options, delivery and other charges. Offer applies to selected retailer stocks at participating retailers only for vehicles registered between 27.12.10 and 31.01.11. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer, except GM Card. Offers are subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small businesses 1–24 (purchase only). Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Offer available to all Vauxhall passenger cars (this offer does not apply to car derived vans). Terms and conditions apply.

All-wheel drive A1 put through paces

THE Audi A1 quattro prototype, which aims to bring all-wheel-drive to the premium subcompact hatchback segment for the first time, is currently undergoing a baptism of fire grappling with freezing conditions on Canada's densely snow-packed roads.

The one-off development car is one of the stars of the 'Fascination of quattro' event taking place in Montreal to celebrate the past, present and future of the pioneering four-wheel-drive system, which reached its 30th anniversary in 2010.

It reaffirms the brand's commitment, made at the 2010 Paris Motor Show, to underpin future high performance variants of the A1 with this proven driver aid.

The latest member of the burgeoning quattro family uses technology very similar to that used in A3 and TT models.

At its core is an electronically controlled, hydraulically actuated multi-plate clutch located in front of the rear axle for an optimized distribution of weight. Inside is a package of plates that rotate in an oil bath.

During normal driving, the clutch sends most of the engine's power to the front wheels.

If the front axle loses grip, the clutch can instantly transfer torque to the rear axle by forcing the plate packages together.

A pressure reservoir helps the electric pump to develop the necessary oil pressure.

The UK A1 range currently offers a choice of ten front-wheel-driven models powered by 1.2-litre TFSI (86PS) and 1.4-litre TFSI (122PS) petrol engines and a 1.6-litre TDI (105PS) diesel, and is priced from £13,420 to £18,665 on the road.

Even before it filters into the most diminutive of Audi models, the quattro system is already a feature of over 120 variants in the Audi line-up, from the A3 hatchback through to the R8 super car.

All for one – Audi's A1 set to get all-wheel drive, with engineers testing a quattro prototype in Canada

Britannia Motors Ltd
www.britanniamotorsukltd.co.uk

05 FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME 3-dr. Metallic Blue, PAS, EW, AC, CD, Alloys £3499
06 FORD MONDEO TDCi 130 GHIA Hatch, Silver, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys.....£3999
04 BMW 316ES Black, PAS, EW, AC, CD, Alloys.....£4499
02 BMW 318SEI Silver, alloys, PS, EW, AC, CD £3499
02 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 3-dr. Met Paint, PAS, EW, AC Alloys.....SOLD
03 VAUXHALL SIGNUM 2.2 Auto. Silver, 1/2 leather, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys ..£2699
03 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 ELEGANCE Red, Alloys, EW, PAS £3499
04 MG TF 1.6 Metallic Black, Alloys, PAS, EW, CD £3299
51 JAGUAR X-TYPE V6 SPORT 2.5CC Alloys, PAS, EW, EM, RC, CL.....£3299
54 PEUGEOT 206 GTi 3-door. Metallic Blue, 1/2 leather, CD, Alloys, PAS, AC, EW £3299
55 ROVER 75 1.8 CLASSIC Silver, full leather, alloys, PAS.....£3799
03 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 CLUB Met Red, PAS, EW, AC, CD, 7 Seats £2499
06 RENAULT LAGUNA 1.9 DCi DYNAMIQUE Half Leather, Alloys, AC, PAS, EW ..£3999
05 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE 5-dr. Black, Alloys, PAS, EW, AC..SOLD
54 ROVER 25 1.4 Si 5-door. Met Grey, PAS, EW, AC, CD £2699
53 HYUNDAI COUPE 20 SE Silver, PAS, EW, Alloys, AC.....£3499

Powke Lane, Rowley Regis, B65 0AH
0121 561 5588
OPEN 7 DAYS
All Major Credit Cards Accepted

The VAUXHALL
COUNTDOWN to 20% OFF
A new Vauxhall
Hurry. Offer ends 31st January 2011
100,000 MILE LIFETIME WARRANTY
VAUXHALL

SALE NOW ON!
INCLUDING MOST NEW CARS AND VANS INCLUDING THE FABULOUS CORSA 'BLACK + WHITE'
Immediate Delivery Available

FEATURES INCLUDE:
• VXR Spoilers
• Front Fog Lights
• Dark Style Headlights and Tail Lights
• Aluminium Pedals
• Leather Covered Steering Wheel
• Air Conditioning
• Electric Adjustable/Heated Door Mirrors
• Sports Chassis
• 17in Alloy Wheels

DON'T MISS OUT - visit our showrooms this weekend!

Dudley Motor Company, Dudley, 01384 454100
Halesowen Motor House, Halesowen, 0121 5030001
Stourbridge Motor House, Stourbridge, 01384 447970
T Wall Garage, Kingswinford, 01384 288333
VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO_2 emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

20% saving applies to list price only and excludes options, delivery and other charges. Offer applies to selected retailer stocks at participating retailers only for vehicles registered between 27.12.10 and 31.01.11. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer, except GM Card. Offers are subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small businesses 1–24 (purchase only). Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Offer available to all Vauxhall passenger cars (this offer does not apply to car derived vans). Terms and conditions apply.

Anniversaries & Weddings
Celebrate
A Special Occasion through
Express & Star
from £18.50 including an illustration (Prepayment only)
01902 31 78 78

www.davidmeecars.co.uk
0121 552 2500
NO VAT INCREASE FINAL WEEK
MINIMUM £500
*PART EXCHANGE LEAVES YOU TO PAY

Y Reg FIAT X19 1.5 BERTONE SPORTS CAR Only 30k, Beautiful! Classic sport icon ....POA
P Reg PEUGEOT 406 SALOON P/Ex to clear £595
P Reg PEUGEOT 306 5-dr. P/Ex to clear £595
T Reg VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 SE 5-dr. Blue. P/Ex to clear £995
51 Reg ROVER 75 2.0 CDT CLUB AUTOMATIC DIESEL Lovely clean car £2295
52 Reg PEUGEOT 307 1.6 GLX 5-dr. P/Ex to clear, private plate ....SOLD
Y Reg RENAULT KANGOO 1.4 RN Sliding doors ELECTRIC REMOTE WHEELCHAIR ACCESS £2295
02 Reg PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX 5-dr. very nice car £2295
03 Reg NISSAN MICRA 1.0E 3-dr. one owner, 31,000 miles only £2495
02 Reg PEUGEOT 206 1.4LX 5-dr. Silver, very clean car £2295
51 Reg MITSUBISHI PAJERO/PINNIN 2.0 GDi 4X4 AUTOMATIC £2495
51 Reg VAUXHALL OMEGA MV6 SALOON AUTOMATIC Silver. The ultimate Omega £2495
52 Reg RENAULT CLIO 1.4 EXPRESSION + 5-door. AUTOMATIC £2495
03 Reg FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE SPORT Low miles, colour coded 58,000 miles £2495
03 Reg PEUGEOT 206cc CONVERTIBLE Black £2995
03 Reg RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 AUTHENTIQUE 5-dr. Sliding doors. Versatile car £2995
52 Reg PEUGEOT 206 GTi 3-dr. Metallic Grey. Supplied by us, lovely car £2995
03 Reg PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX Metallic Blue, 66,000 miles. Previously sold by us £2995
02 Reg MG TF 135 BHP Silver SPORTS CONVERTIBLE LEATHER low miles £3295
54 Reg PEUGEOT 407 SE HDi 4 SALOON Blue DIESEL ....SOLD
05 Reg ROVER 75 1.8 T CONTEMPORARY TOURER ESTATE HALF LEATHER £3495
05 Reg RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 EXPRESSION 5-dr. Silver £3495
04 Reg FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr. Metallic Silver, full service history £3495
02 Reg PEUGEOT 206cc 1.6 CONVERTIBLE Silver £3495
53 Reg TOYOTA AVENSIS 1.8 T2 5-dr. FSH, Metallic Red. Lovely £3795
54 Reg FIAT DOBLO 1.3 Multi Jet Family ESTATE DIESEL 7 SEATER £3795
56 Reg CITROEN 2.0 HDi BERLINGO VAN DIESEL 38,000 miles £3795
02 Reg MINI 1.6 COOPER Red with White roof. Very clean example £3995
52 Reg BMW 316ti COMPACT Metallic Silver, very clean example. Rare car £3995
07 Reg FORD FIESTA 1.25 STYLE CLIMATE 5-dr. Silver £4495
05 Reg PEUGEOT 206 2.0 HDi SPORT Met Blue, 42,000 miles DIESEL Group 5 insurance. Economical £4495
03 Reg PEUGEOT 206 CC Black with Red leather ELECTRIC ROOF only 24,000 miles £4495
09 Reg KIA PICANTO 1.0 12V 5-door, only 15,000 miles £4,495
06 Reg FORD C MAX ZETEC 1.6 TDCi 5-door DIESEL MPV £4,795
07 Reg VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 LIFE MPV. Air con, Metallic Steel Blue £4995
06 Reg RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE 5-dr. 32,000 miles. Only £4995
07 Reg RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXTREME NEW SHAPE Black, very low miles. Really lovely £4995
59 Reg FIAT 500 1.2 WHITE, BLUE TOOTH AIR CON LEATHER £6995
* PART EXCHANGE MUST HAVE A CURRENT MOT

CAN'T GET CREDIT? CALL US or apply online
DAVID MEE CARS LTD
141, DUDLEY ROAD EAST
OLDBURY, B69 3DU
T: 0121 552 2500
E: info@davidmeecars.co.uk
We Are Here
West Brom
Halfpenny
BURNTREE
A4123
Jct 2
M5
SOLIHULL
W'ton
Langley

thechronicle

experts

LOCKSMITHS

Engraving Service Now Available

• All Commercial & Residential Locksmith work Undertaken
• Local, Reliable Locksmith
• No Call Out Charge
• Competitive Rates & Prices
• Key Cutting Service
• Extensive Range of Locks, Security & Hardware Products
• Up to 30% Trade Discount
• Insurance Customers Welcome
• Free Security Surveys

0121 556 7771
24/7 Emergency Locksmith
Call 07834 882294 (24 hrs)
31 Lower High Street, Wednesbury, West Midlands WS10 7AQ

GARDENING

HOME & GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS
• General Gardening • Fencing • Shifting
• Decking • Decorating
• Tiling • Wooden Flooring
All aspects of DIY work undertaken
CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE
T: 0121 520 950
M: 07578 03610

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES
• Tree Surgery Specialists • Stump Grinding
• Garden Maintenance • Hedges • Pruning
• Turfing • Regular Gardening
Emergency Call Out 24-7-365
"Small enough to care, Big enough to cope"
01384 213644 or 07733 226568
Age Concern &
Local Authority Contractor
B.A.T.G. Qualified
Public Liability Insurance (Small)
All Staff C.R.B. Certified

ROOFING

ALL WEATHER ROOFING
Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimney Gutterings, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Claddings
FREE ESTIMATES • FACTORY FINISH
Over 30 years experience
0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Mobile Number: 07947 839454

VK GARDENS AND BLOCK PAVING SPECIALISTS
We also specialise in
• Walling • Tarmac
• Fencing • Tubbing around of any size
• Garden Walls • Tree Felling
FIVE YEAR GUARANTEE ON BLOCK PAVING
FOR A FREE QUOTE
Call: 0121-525 3346
or Mobile: 07984 338733

A1 Little Job Man
(Part of the Legend Residential Group)
Over 25 years experience
• Fully Insured • Full Work Guarantee
• Very Reasonable Rates & Values
• NPUC Plumbing & Gas Safety Fitting Qualified
• All Building Work Undertaken
• All Work Guaranteed • All Areas Covered
0121 553 3020

LINDOPS LANDSCAPES
All Landscape Work Undertaken
No Job Too Small or Too Big
FREE QUOTATIONS
All aspects of Tree Surgery, Block Paving, Fencing, etc
Est. 25 Years
Ex Council Gardener
0121-421 2858
07816 086369

WALMLEY ROOFING & BUILDING SERVICES
• Chimney repointing, fire OK
• Chimney rebuilds, lead work, all types
• Chimney pots, lead slates
• All guttering, soffit and fascia work
• Felting, felt and felt tiles
• Flat roofing
• Slating, felt and felt tiles
• Fully insured with public liability cover
Tel: 0801 457 0039
Customer Care Line 0121 615 4691

GARDENING

CARTHIA LANDSCAPES
Specialists in block paving, patios, driveways, paths
Also All Aspects of Landscaping
01902 496354 / 07960 376737

SKIP HIRE

RUSSELL'S SKIPS
MINI/MIDI SKIPS
(0121) 520 3388
07721 367990

NEVER UNDER ESTIMATE THE POWER OF SMALL
Classified adverts might be small, but they pack a big punch.
For as little as £25 per week, you can promote your business to the largest audience in the Midlands.
That's a staggering 650,000 local people each week.
Give us a call – we think you'll be knocked out by the impact.

01902 317678
Express & Star
The Chronicle
www.expressandstar.com

classified
There's nothing like it for buying and selling.

Fighting fit with martial arts club

A SANDWELL martial arts club is looking for new members.

Wednesbury Kickboxing Academy, running since 2002, wants new talent at its sessions at Wednesbury Leisure Centre, High Bullen.

It is taught by Brian Aston, a 4th Dan black belt and senior instructor at the British Modern Karate Association.

He said: "Our form of karate is a modern style which fuses together the traditional self-defence and discipline aspects of karate with the explosive and powerful techniques of kickboxing and Muay Thai, to give a very effective martial art and versatile form of self-defence.

Titles

"Our classes are ideal for kids, teenagers and adults. All fitness and ability levels are welcome because martial arts are for everyone to enjoy.

"So if you want to boost your confidence, lose a few pounds, gain fitness, want to achieve the coveted black belt or be the next world champion, our system is perfect for you."

Mr Aston has been training in martial arts for 27 years and has won six professional kickboxing titles.

Training is held on Wednesdays from 7pm. Call 0845 659 4815.

Karate instructor Sensei Brian Aston outside Wednesbury Leisure Centre

Lisa Rashid, Sandwell Leisure Trust, promoting triathalon sessions with Stefan Pearce, of British Triathalon, Mark Deakin and son Joe from Oldbury Swimming Club

Athletes invited to test themselves with triathlon

SANDWELL Leisure Trust is pioneering opportunities for sportsmen and women in the borough to take part in triathlon training and events.

SLT is working with Triathlon England and Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club. The new partnership has been formed on the back of Sandwell's first aquathon last year.

Plans are under way to organise the next aquathon which is scheduled to take place on Sunday, March 6. It will take place at Tipton Swimming Centre and Victoria Park, Tipton.

Lisa Rashid, physical activity officer for Sandwell Leisure Trust, said: "This new partnership is a fantastic opportunity to be able to offer sportspeople a new activity in the area.

"It is also fantastic to be able to work with a community sports club and a national governing body."

In the run up to this event Triathlon England has offered free training sessions to all those registering. Sessions were held in November last year and others are being held on January 30 and February 27. These sessions will be between 12 noon and 3pm at Tipton Swimming Centre and Victoria Park and will cover activities such as swimming, running, cycling and transition (changing).

Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club has started triathlon training sessions at Tipton Swimming Centre on a Wednesday evenings at 9pm.

Mark Deakin, triathlon representative and triathlon coach for Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club, said: "It's great that we at Oldbury Swimming and Triathlon Club, with help from British Triathlon, are being given the opportunity to bring the sport to Tipton and the surrounding areas."

For more information or to enter the aquathon contact Lisa Rashid on (0121) 506 4980.

RUGBY UNION

Babas in control after early shock

BIRMINGHAM BARBARIANS 36 ST LEONARDS 8

FOLLOWING a long winter break the Birmingham Barbarians got back to winning ways with an impressive Merit Table win over St Leonards at Moor Lane, Perry Barr, last Saturday.

Steve O'Prey

The Barbarians went 8-0 down early on to an interception try and penalty but soon fought back to take control.

Powerhouse prop Sam Swancutt touched down after an impressive rolling maul with Lee Lamburn adding the conversion. Moments later a Lamburn penalty inched the home side ahead and veteran back row forward Ian Smith crashed over for a rare try just before the break. Lamburn's conversion made it 17-8 at half-time.

The Barbarians three-quarter line began to take control with some good movement and it wasn't long before a long pass from Mark McNulty saw Trent Turner dive over in the corner for his first ever try to extend their lead.

Scrum-half Steve O'Prey then got in on the act with a typical poachers try from a scrum in the St Leonards 22. Lamburn once again slotted over the conversion and then a good move was rounded off with a try for Pete Madden. Lamburn's kick made the final score 36-8.

This Saturday the Barbarians host Aldridge seconds in another Merit Table clash.

Call 07745057936 or visit www.bhambarbarians.co.uk for more details.

Aikido opportunity

HADEN Hill Aikido Club is offering a training programme for 16-19-year-olds.

The programme consists of an hour-long training session over eight weeks beginning on Sunday, January 23, at 4.30pm. The sessions will be held at Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Barrs Road, Cradley Heath.

Insurance cover the whole course costs £1.50. At the end of the training programme each participant who has completed the programme will be awarded a certificate.

Instructors Senseis Ken and Helen Williams, who are both 2nd Dans, said: "We are very pleased to have received Sports Unlimited Funding for this training programme and believe this is a fantastic opportunity for any male or female teenager aged between 16 and 19 years old to experience Aikido.

"The training will be supervised in a safe and friendly environment and will cover a range of Aikido training, including some Katas using the Jo (wooden staff) as an introduction to the control of weapons, mind and body."

Aikido is seen as providing a different perspective on life as it develops physical fitness and vital social skills.

If you are aged between 16-19 years old and would like to take part in this Aikido Training Programme, contact Ken or Helen Williams on 07779 254 971 for further information.

Members of Haden Hill Aikido Club

Jukes pops up with late winner for Bustleholme

BROMYARD 1 BUSTLEHOLME 2

BUSTLEHOLME continued their good run with an away victory in the West Midlands Premier League against bottom-of-the-table Bromyard on Saturday.

The visitors were made to work hard for the three points on a pitch that up to Thursday was covered in water.

Bromyard took the lead in the 28th minute when Jamie Gifford capitalised on a mix-up in the visiting defence. The home side continued to press but couldn't find a second goal that would have given them a cushion. And they were made to pay in the 55th minute when Connor Scott finished off a tremendous run by Adam Wattley.

Patience

Bustleholme continued to press and their patience paid off when Matty Jukes drove home a cross from Scott in the 88th minute.

Bustleholme will look to continue their recent good form when they play host to Stafford Town on Saturday.

TIVIDALE'S West Midlands Premier League game at Cradley Town was postponed. However, Tividale remained top of the table, six points clear of second-placed AFC Wulfrunians.

Boost for Futsal leagues

THE @Futsal International Birmingham arena has been awarded an FA grant of £10,000 to develop the adult 5-a-side futsal leagues in Birmingham.

The award strengthens the FA's plan to develop futsal as the only format of small sided football that has a national squad and league. It will allow @Futsal to put the FA's strategy into place, with leagues being launched every night of the week at the arena in Handsworth. Free taster sessions are provided.

Tipton's Cameron Jones looks to find a way past Causeway's Sam Beasley

Jozsef Jakab holds off Carl Martin during the Midland Alliance clash

Tipton win with a quick double strike

TIPTON TOWN 2 CAUSEWAY UNITED 0

TWO goals in a five-minute first-half spell gave Tipton their ninth home league win of the season as a Midland Alliance double was achieved over Causeway United.

The visitors had been in good form themselves, going into the game on a six-game winning streak.

Tipton remained unchanged from last Saturday's win over Kirby Muxloe while Causeway changed it about, starting with one striker and two-goal hero from midweek Danny Jones on the bench.

The home side began brightly and forced a corner inside two minutes. Cameron Jones delivered and John Hill met it but the header lacked power and Todd Henderson saved.

Twice more Tipton went close early on, Jozsef Jakab was denied as Henderson saved and from the resulting corner Lee Osbourne missed the target from six yards out.

Causeway then had their best spell of the game. A speculative free-kick from distance sailed over the top and Leigh Pardoe screwed his shot wide of the post. The decisive period came soon after. Osbourne was fouled just outside the penalty area and Jakab's free-kick went through the wall past Henderson.

Five minutes later and the lead was doubled, a fine team goal was the undoing of the visitors. Steve Palmer won possession in the middle of the park and sprayed the ball out to Jones, the winger crossed for Jakab who superbly turned his man and got in a shot that Henderson saved but Osbourne reacted quickest to convert the loose ball.

The visitors' best chance of the half came with seven minutes remaining, Will Tibbetts beat the offside trap and raced clear but was denied by home keeper Matt Sargeant who made a fine save low down to his left.

The visitors made a change at the break to put out a more attacking line-up with Jones replacing Steve Poole. They went close five minutes into the second period when Matt Aston rose highest at a corner but Jones cleared the loose ball of the line.

Causeway made their final two changes with half hour to play, Sam Beasley and Adam Meacham replacing Ben Stretton and Pardoe. A fine save from Sargeant kept a powerful drive from Tibbetts out when he volleyed from the edge of the box.

Hill went close again for Tipton from another corner but Casueway were able to scramble the ball clear and Danny Bragoli's strike from distance was tipped over by Henderson.

Osbourne had the chance to get his second and Tipton's third late on but after a powerful surge forward blazed his shot over the top.

The victory tok Tipton back up to secondnd place, just a point behind leaders Coalville Town going into last night's (Wednesday's) home match with Stratford.

Darren Bent – set to cost Villa £24m

Houllier swoop for the Black Cats' star striker

VILLA were this week set to double their transfer record as they put the finishing touches on the signing of Darren Bent from Sunderland in a deal reputed to be worth a whopping £24m.

The 26-year-old striker arrived in Birmingham on Monday for a medical and to agree personal terms on a four-and-a-half year contract, believed to be worth in the region of £80,000 a week.

Bent, who handed in a written transfer request at the Stadium of Light, has been rumoured to have been unhappy for some time with life at Sunderland.

One of the main factors allegedly behind his departure was the bad vibes he received from Sunderland over the renegotiation of his contract.

The Black Cats were said to be reluctant to open talks over a new deal which prompted Bent to seek a move away from the north-east after he failed to get the assurances he wanted.

Bent is also said to have not been on speaking terms with Black Cats boss Steve Bruce for weeks.

Support

Villa fans can be optimistic that Gerard Houllier is the kind of manager – as demonstrated by the turnaround in fortunes with Emile Heskey – who will put an arm around Bent and provide the kind of emotional support he needs to get the best out of him.

The claret and blues have been crying out for a goalscorer of Bent's calibre and his haul of 153 club goals in 363 appearances, including 129 in 312 league games, have persuaded Villa to double the £12m they paid for James Milner and Stewart Downing.

The England international is likely to increase his wages from the £60,000-a-week mark which will prompt Houllier to attempt to finalise Carew's exit and find a club for Stephen Ireland. It is also understood that it will be a straight cash deal for Bent.

The move will also, however, spark suggestions that star man Ashley Young will now be sold to suitors Liverpool in a bid to balance the books.

The problem is very clear but Villa still prove a point

IF it wasn't clear before the Second City derby it was afterwards – Villa are in dire need of a striker who can put the ball in the back of the net.

BLUES 1
VILLA 1

It might seem like a statement of the blatantly obvious but this encounter at St Andrew's could have been so much more satisfying for those of claret and blue persuasion if any of Villa's misfiring front men had been at the races.

Villa lined up with a 4-2-3-1 system and caught Birmingham half asleep in the opening stages with a high-tempo approach which should have yielded a goal as early as the first minute. The chance fell to Gabby Agbonlahor but his lack of confidence was evident as he screwed a shot wide with only goalkeeper Ben Foster to beat from close range. It was the kind of chance that Agbonlahor would have comfortably put away in previous seasons.

You cannot fault manager Gerard Houllier for picking the wrong players on this occasion as he fielded just about the most attacking line-up at his disposal. It even saw a return to the starting XI for John Carew who made his first start of the new year.

Carew has not even been in the claret and blues' matchday squad since the 2-1 win over Albion on December 11 and looked set to be shown the Villa Park exit door.

So it was quite a U-turn for Houllier, who said he had been impressed with the attitude and application of the Norwegian in training recently which warranted bringing him back in from the cold.

And while he was full of hustle and bustle leading the line he was a battering ram when Villa needed a locksmith to open the Blues' defence.

illa certainly play more aesthetic football under Houllier but it is no good completing 20 neat-and-tidy passes if there is no end product.

The question is whether there is sufficient talent – and perhaps the belief – among the club's existing forwards that they can provide the necessary firepower to help Villa out of the hole they find themselves in.

While defensive improvements seemed to have taken affect after Villa's drubbing at the hands of Manchester City, it is matters at the other end of the park that must be the focus.

In the context of Second City derby games this was one of the more open meetings and the football played by both sides was perhaps not typical of the kick-and-rush affair of previous matches. Villa were easily the better side before half-time but it initially looked like it would be one of those days when Blues took the lead four minutes after the break when James Collins brought down Alexander Hleb outside the penalty area.

Craig Gardner's shot from the resulting free-kick took a deflection off David Murphy and defender Roger Johnson was able to poke the ball past a flat-footed Brad Friedel to put them ahead.

The momentum swung in the home side's favour after the opening goal and just moments later Matt Derbyshire brought a fine diving save out of Friedel with a low shot from the right.

Equalised

But it was Villa who equalised in the 73rd minute after Kyle Walker won the ball back off Murphy on the right flank and laid it off to Marc Albrighton. The young winger's sharp delivery was met by the head of Agbonlahor and the ball fell to Collins who executed a shot on the turn which deflected off Liam Ridgewell and past Foster.

Villa could have taken the lead on the counter-attack only two minutes later when Stewart Downing forced Foster to save at his near post before Richard Dunne cleared off the line at the other end when Blues hit on the break.

With five minutes left on the clock, substitute Nathan Delfouneso almost scored a spectacular long-range winner with a shot which rebounded back off the crossbar.

Villa have only taken six points out of the last 30 available and while that is a worrying haul the Premier League is still very tight. A couple of wins and Villa will be in the top half of the table.

A huge psychological plus for Houllier is that the point helped Villa climb out of the bottom three ahead of Wigan – albeit only on goals scored – and their meeting with the Latics in takes on extra significance.

There may be 16 games left in the season for Villa to avoid relegation on the pitch but the next two weeks before the transfer window closes will prove just as important to achieving that goal.

Villa's Richard Dunne, left, and Birmingham City's Lee Bowyer both go for the ball

TALKING POINT

STRIKER: Gerard Houllier has hinted he will wait until the summer to bring in a striker because of an over-inflated market in the January transfer window. But with Villa's forwards lacking in both confidence, form and goals can the claret and blues boss really go until the end of the season without signing another striker? John Carew will need to do more to convince Houllier he deserves regular football. Gabby Agbonlahor looks like a player desperately in need of a goal.

Next three games…

MAN CITY (H) JAN 22
Chance to avenge the 4-0 drubbing received at Eastlands although Mancini's side are title contenders.

WIGAN (A) JAN 25
Villa must win to ease relegation fears. Wigan have been leaking goals at home and Villa must capitalise.

BLACKBURN (H) JAN 29
Premier League is the priority but an FA Cup game will give a chance for some fringe players to impress.

Marc Albrighton holds off Alexander Hleb of Birmingham City

sport

MAN OF THE MATCH
YOUSSOUF MULUMBU

THE heartbeat of the Albion side delivered a fabulous display that was the inspiration behind a crucial victory.

By the end of the game several Baggies were performing really well but early in the afternoon, when the hosts were looking drained of all belief, it was Mulumbu who dragged them up by their bootlaces.

His energy, drive and willingness to receive the ball under pressure got his team going at a difficult moment in their season.

Skipper for the day Chris Brunt squanders a chance

Striker Peter Odemwingie sets off to celebrate his match-winning strike Pictures: Alan Evans

Thrilling victory calms the nerves

AFTER a horrible month and a trying week came a glorious release.

But boy, did Albion make their fans work for their moment of joy.

The Baggies gave a packed-out Hawthorns a thrilling afternoon with an exhilarating finale, their first success of 2011 offering fresh hope for a happy end to a classic season.

Yet it took nerves of steel for the Albion faithful to get through a game of high emotion.

And they had better get used to it. Because, just like Saturday's epic chapter, the whole of this battle to avoid the drop looks set to go down to the wire. Let's face it, anything else just wouldn't be Albion.

The Baggies rarely do anything simply, so their passionate supporters really should have seen Saturday's roof-raising conclusion coming.

But by the time Peter Odemwingie stole in to snatch a priceless winner in the dying moments of a barnstorming match, emotions in the stands were so scrambled that spectators probably didn't know what to think.

It was the kind of game that shortens the lives of managers and coaches but enriches those lucky enough to be paying observers.

And for Albion, the 87 minutes of joy, despair and every feeling in between that preceded Odemwingie's memorable winner proved to be time well-spent as they ended a desperate run of six successive defeats with a vital victory born of iron will and a little of the good fortune they have lacked in recent weeks.

In truth, the win answered few of the questions that the dismal run either side of Christmas had posed for Roberto Di Matteo and his side. But it didn't half make them and their supporters feel better as they turned their attentions to a series of matches they know could define their bid for survival.

ALBION 3
BLACKPOOL 2

The careless defending that undermined the Baggies in recent matches was present again, first as Blackpool claimed a predictable early lead and again as they struck with 10 minutes remaining, apparently to claim a point after the hosts had fought back to lead 2-1.

Punished

Di Matteo was forced to watch as they switched off with just 11 minutes on the clock, failing to stop a short corner routine from the visitors then neglecting to close down David Vaughan, who punished them with a fine curling shot into the top corner from 20 yards.

He was equally disgusted on 80 minutes, firstly as Matty Phillips strolled down the right and crossed easily into the danger area, then as Gary Taylor-Fletcher left his defenders standing at the far post to turn the ball home for an equaliser.

His side managed to climb the mountain again to restore their one-goal advantage in the nick of time thanks to Odemwingie but Di Matteo will not need reminding that on another day their lack of concentration might have been costly.

Ian Holloway's men could have scored on another two occasions. And, just as the colourful Blackpool boss could not deny Albion's claim to all three points, the Baggies could not have complained had the Tangerines run out winners. It was that kind of day.

For Albion, however, their desperation for points outweighed any need for a performance and the Italian must hope that the injection of belief from Odemwingie's late opportunist strike inspires his men to iron out their defensive creases.

After all, he only had to study his leading scorer on Saturday for a reminder of what a difference confidence can make.

For 37 minutes the Nigeria international was a shadow of the player who terrorised Premier League defenders on his arrival from Russia at the start of the season.

His head was down, his shoulders hunched, his touch uncertain.

But, from the moment he retained his composure to spring the offside trap, collect Graham Dorrans' lofted pass and beat Richard Kingson to cancel out Vaughan's opener, Odewmingie was a different player.

His added conviction was displayed starkly for the dramatic winner as he chased a lost cause, pounced on an error from centre-back Craig Cathcart and prodded a shot low past Richard Kingson to seal a topsy-turvy game.

His late intervention should not have been needed after James Morrison reacted quickest to poke home a close-range shot from Jerome Thomas's cross to put the Baggies 2-1 up early in the second half.

But Albion supporters should have known better than to expect that goal to herald a smooth passage to three points.

Eventually they closed out victory. But they did it the hard way. And with some crucial fixtures just around the corner, their fans will already be braced for more of the same.

Perfect Peter – Odemwingie reveals secret behind his goals

It's all in the mind

ALBION goal-hero Peter Odemwingie has revealed how a psychologist helped him find his scoring touch.

The Baggies' leading scorer struck twice in Saturday's 3-2 win over Blackpool on Saturday to end a month-long search for a goal. The Nigeria international, who missed several chances including a penalty against Manchester United before finding the net against the Seasiders, revealed how two appointments with a member of the Hawthorns medical team helped him clear his mind.

"I am someone who plays and replays things in my head all the time and even at the club they noticed I was a little bit down," he said. "I spoke to the sporting director and I had two days with a psychologist and it really worked.

"He tried to look at what was in my mind and give me a few keys on how to work it through."

Odemwingie struck the Baggies' late winner on Saturday and ran to the dugout to celebrate with head of medical services Dr Mark Gillett and lead rehabilitation physio Steve Wright.

"I have been very close to them lately," he said. "They really care a lot and have helped me a lot."

The Sandwell and Great Barr Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, January 20, 2011.

TALKING POINT

COULD ALBION SURVIVE WITHOUT PETER ODEMWINGIE? Once again the Nigeria international proved vital to the Baggies, scoring two out of three goals which included the vital winner in a priceless victory.

Saturday's events merely underlined how huge a difference the summer signing makes to Roberto Di Matteo's side. Despite a season dogged by niggling injuries, Odemwingie has played his part in garnering 21 of his club's 25 points this season while the team have struggled without him.

Keeping him fit could be pivotal to their hopes of beating the drop.

And so too could the club's ability to unearth an able deputy for their leading scorer during a potentially vital transfer window.

Next three games…

BLACKBURN (A) JAN 23
Albion will seek revenge for their Hawthorns defeat to Rovers with their confidence boosted by victory over Blackpool.

WIGAN (H) FEB 1
Another home game that the Baggies will see as very winnable and will target for three more vital points towards their target for safety.

MANCHESTER CITY (A) FEB 5
A hugely tough assignment for Roberto Di Matteo's men against a City side now in the thick of a fascinating title race.

SANDWELL
thechronicle
JANUARY 20, 2011 15p when sold
AN EDITION OF THE SANDWELL AND GREAT BARR CHRONICLE

SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
An altogether better place to learn

Extracts from January 2011 OfSTED Report

ADVERTISEMENT

Students participate actively in lessons

Sir Mark Grundy, Executive Principal

"This remarkably rapid turnaround has been achieved by exceptional leadership, robust support from external partners and an almost obsessive desire on the behalf of all staff to improve the quality of teaching and learning."

An "Outstanding" School

In January 2011 Shireland Collegiate Academy was recognised by OfSTED as an "outstanding" school

Students are Making Exceptional Progress

Students are Making Exceptional Progress
"The Academy's overall provision is outstanding because so many elements are excellent. Students are making exceptional progress elements are excellent. Students are making exceptional progress because of consistently high quality teaching, exemplary use of assessment, rigorous tracking, sharply focused interventions, and

Ofsted
January 2011

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
An altogether better place to learn

Collegiate Academy Trust Waterloo Road Smethwick West Midlands B66 4ND
t: 0121 558 8086 f: 0121 558 8377 www.collegiateacademy.org.uk
Executive Principal: Sir Mark Grundy
George Salter Collegiate Academy Principal: Mr Mick Green
Shireland Collegiate Academy Principal: Sir Mark Grundy

Ormiston Trust
Collegiate Academy Trust

Aim Higher · See Further · Be Concerned for Everyone · Leading Learning · Changing Attitudes · Promoting Cohesion

Extracts from January 2011 OfSTED Report

Community Cohesion
"The Academy is a harmonious community where students from diverse backgrounds get on very well together and feel completely safe."

"Understanding the needs of its immediate and wider community enables the Academy to make an exceptional contribution to the promotion of community cohesion."

Strong Partnerships
"The Academy works outstandingly well with parents and carers and also with an impressive range of external partners to achieve good outcomes for students."

Improved Curriculum
"Nowhere is accelerated progress more evident than in Years 7 and 8 where the excellent competency-based curriculum has had a remarkable impact on the standard of students' work in English and mathematics, as well as their wider personal development."

Our Key Stage 3 structure, Literacy for Life is having a hugely positive effect on our students.

Attendance and attainment levels are at an all-time high.

Modern technology is used exceptionally well to support the learning and well-being of students.

Highest Expectations
"Lessons proceed at a brisk pace because teachers have the highest expectations of what students should and might achieve and plan accordingly activities to engage and challenge them."

The Academy reflects a rich cultural diversity

Excellent Safeguarding Procedures
"The Academy has excellent procedures for safeguarding students which are implemented and reviewed with exceptional rigour so that staff at all levels and members of the governing body are aware of their responsibilities."

High Quality Teaching
"The quality of teaching is consistently high because teachers have worked relentlessly to implement agreed strategies for behaviour management, lesson planning and assessment."

High Expectations
"Students enjoy school and respond to the Academy's high expectations by behaving well and working hard. Their attitudes contribute positively to their outstanding progress and good achievement."

Outstanding Care, Guidance and Support
"The care, guidance and support provided by the Academy are outstandingly effective because the individual needs of students are understood, and because staff pay meticulous attention to detail."

"Students trust staff and feel confident that they will be given effective advice and guidance. Excellent procedures have significantly increased attendance, and greatly reduced persistent absenteeism and incidents of unacceptable behaviour."

◖ Aim Higher ◖ See Further ◖ Be Concerned for Everyone ◖ Leading Learning ◖ Changing Attitudes ◖ Promoting Cohesion

Extracts from January 2011 OfSTED Report

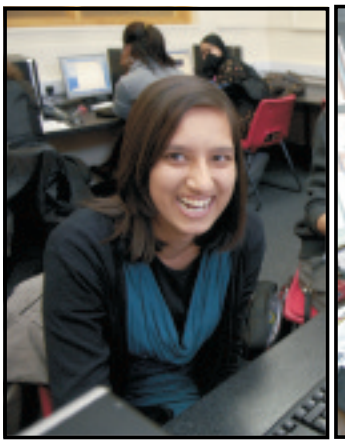
Post 16 Quality of Learning Strengthened

"The provision is part of a well-established local consortium arrangement which gives sixth-form students an appropriate range of courses at different levels of accreditation to meet their needs and aspirations."

"The quality of learning has been strengthened and students' progress has been accelerated by the dramatic improvements in teaching and in the use of assessment which have been realised across the Academy."

"Ambitious target setting and rigorous tracking, underpinned by clear guidance, ensure that students feel well supported. Students respond to the Academy's high expectations and develop mature attitudes."

"Advice, guidance and support, including monitoring of students' progress and attendance, are good."



Looking for a Post 16 Place?

SSC South Sandwell Consortium

South Sandwell Consortium consists of Bristnall Hall Technology College, George Salter Collegiate Academy and Shireland Collegiate Academy. The structure of the consortium enables students to access a large number of programmes and ensures that each student has an individual timetable that meets their needs and skills.

By joining a Post-16 campus within the South Sandwell Consortium, students have the opportunity to experience life in a Consortium renowned for its high academic achievement. Post-16 provides valuable continuity of learning and is structured to equip students with the qualifications and personal qualities needed to face the challenges of higher education and an ever changing job market.

Bristnall Hall · GS · SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

We've met new teachers and kept in touch with old ones. . . .

My subjects are great. Study periods give me a chance to complete any work that needs to be done.

The teachers are supportive and new friends have been made. The Post 16 base is very relaxing.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
An altogether better place to learn

I've seen a new side to the Academy. It is very different from when I first arrived in Year 7

University Success

- Irfaan gained a scholarship at De Montford University to study Pharmacy
- Laura gained AAB and went to the University of Sheffield to study Chemistry
- Kirath has gone to the London of School of Economics and Political Science to study Law

Shireland Collegiate Academy offers a wide range of courses, from BTECs to 'A' Levels that can get you to University or help you obtain a good job.

t: 0121 558 8086 email: j.marshall@collegiateacademy.org.uk
www.sscpost16.org.uk

Aim Higher · See Further · Be Concerned for Everyone · Leading Learning · Changing Attitudes · Promoting Cohesion

SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
An altogether better place to learn

Extracts from January 2011 OfSTED Report

Our Nursery Provision is "Outstanding"

First Steps Nursery + Pre-school

"Pre-school provision has strengthened since the last inspection and is outstanding."

"All elements of care and support, including safeguarding, are excellent."

"Staff are meticulous in recording the progress that children make and use their in-depth knowledge of the needs of each individual to guide them appropriately."

"The nursery leader has made systematic use of rigorous self-evaluation to further improve provision. Excellent links with parents make a hugely positive contribution to the children's development, because the nursery works in partnership to promote the children's learning and well-being."

Contact Details

First Steps Nursery @ Shireland Collegiate Academy
Contact Emma Cox 0121 565 8927

First Steps Nursery @ Dorothy Parkes
For more information about provision for 3 - 5 year olds
Contact Amy Walker 0121 558 2998

Adult and Family Courses at the Academy

For more information contact Roy Gardiner m 0771 761 8598

FREE

Shireland INTERNET CAFE NOW OPEN

A1 size Print Facilities | Free Internet Access | Photocopying Facilities

Sandwell | Sandwell NHS Primary Care Trust

New Year, New YOU!

Lose weight with Slimwell or WeightFit

Tuesday Evening

Wednesday Evening

Lose weight and feel better with weekly support, call us

0800 011 4656

www.eatwellinsandwell.co.uk

FREE

Skills for Life

FREE
Adult numeracy and literacy courses offered online.

read·write·plus

Skills for Life is a numeracy and literacy provision aimed at adults over the age of 19.
It is an accredited course through City and Guilds.

The courses are held at Shireland Collegiate Academy
Waterloo Road, Smethwick B66 4ND

Monday 2.00pm - 4.00pm
Wednesday 10.00am - 12.00pm

ESOL Classes at Shireland Collegiate Academy

Thursday 12.45pm - 2.45pm
Friday 10.00am - 12.00pm

Charge for course may apply